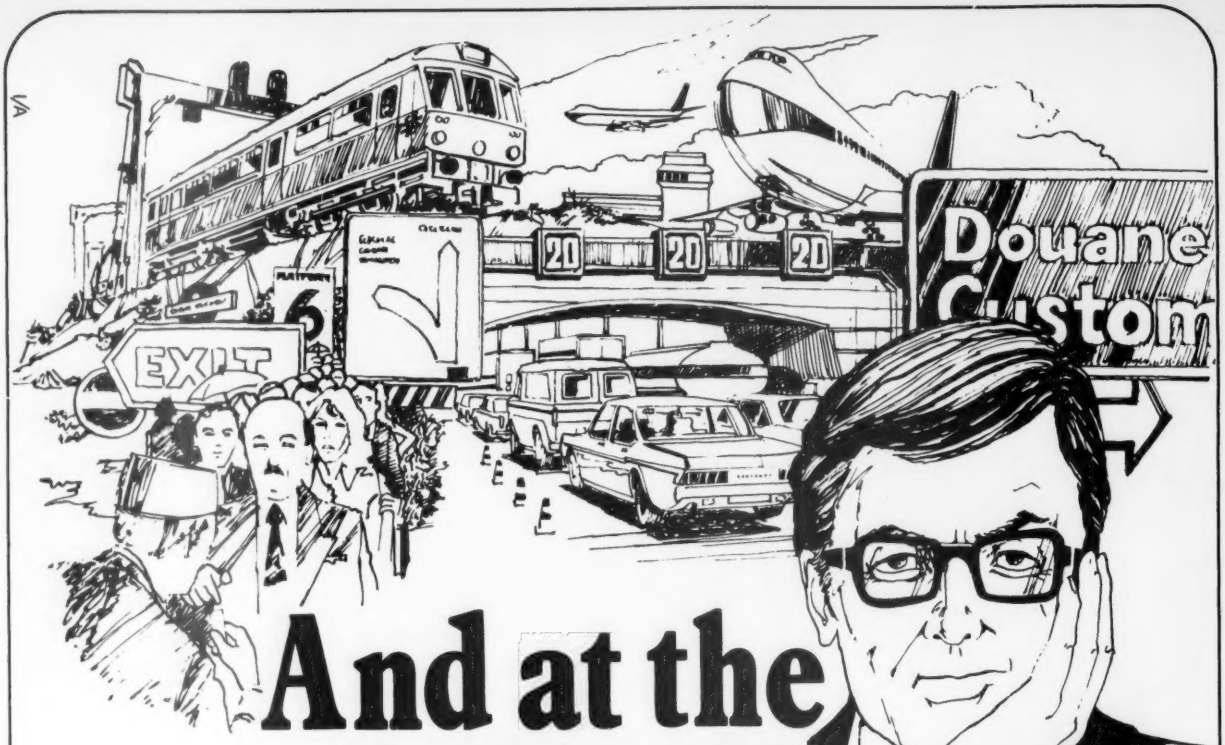
Trade and Industry

21 April 1978 Every Friday 40p

Overseas trade news ■
Trade exhibitions ■ BOTB news ■ Trade missions ■
Notices to importers ■ ECGD news ■ Trade conferences □
Country data ■ Market reports □ Export services ■
Export successes □ Queen's award winners ■ Trade and aid □ Community trade ■
Trade promotions guide □
Commercial representation guide □ UK trade statistics ■
export prospects □ Etc ■

■ This week



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Trade and Industry

21 April 1978

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Overseas trade news■ Trade exhibitions■ BOTB news■ Trade missions■ Notices to importers□ ECGD news■ Trade conferences□ Country data■ Market reports□ Export services■ Export successes□ Queen's award winners■ Trade and aid□ Community trade■ Trade promotions guide□ Commercial representation guide□ UK trade statistics■ export prospects□ Etc■

■ This week

In addition to our usual range of news and features on trade, we publish this week the Queen's award winners (page 158) and an article showing how different methods of country attribution have a big effect on trade statistics (page 168).

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HOME

Price Commission report on bank charges published

Interest could be paid on current accounts, says the Price Commission, in its report on bank charges for money transmission services published on Tuesday (18 April). Alternatively, the scale of abatement of charges could be linked to broad movements in short-term interest rates as well as to average balances.

These are two methods, if the banks' revenue is to increase, by which money transmission charges should reflect more closely the cost of the service provided and fuller credit be given to customers from banks' income on their deposits.

The choice is up to the banks, suggests the report, Price Commission Sectoral Examinations Report, no. 2, 'Banks: Charges for Money Transmission Services' (HC 337 HMSO £1.10 ISBN 0 10 233778 0).

The commission had found that on an inflation-adjusted basis, return on capital for the banks' business as a whole fell sharply between 1972 and 1977. But the commission warns that since charges for money transmission services form a small proportion of the total income of banks – in particular the big four London clearing banks – increases in these charges cannot be relied on alone to restore bank profits.

The major burden must inevitably fall on lending, international activities and ancillary services which are outside the scope of the commission's report. Although the banks now disclose their profits, they still do not reveal their provisions for bad and doubtful debts. There are two kinds of provisions: specific provisions, made against loans unlikely to be repaid; and general provisions, against the remainder of loans and proportion of which will eventually prove to be bad. The commission suggests that the banks should disclose their general provisions and the movements in those provisions.

OFT comment

Commenting on the commission's suggestion that certain agreements between banks should be referred to the restrictive practices court, Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said that under the extension of restrictive trade practices law to cover service industries, some 600 agreements had been submitted to his office for scrutiny, of which 14 submitted by the banks were already on the public register. These detailed agreements had required close examination and, in some cases, it had been necessary to seek further information from the banks who were parties to them.

The banking agreements were among a number of major ones he was considering and in deciding his priorities he had to take account of the public interest issues they raised. Among these considerations would be the Price Commission's report.

Bus and tube fares can go up

The Price Commission announced on Monday that, under the safeguard regulations, it had been obliged to allow the full fare increases sought by London Transport Executive of overall averages of 9.2 per cent on bus fares and of 10.8 per cent on underground train fares. This follows consideration of representations by London Transport.

The commission announced on 7 April 1978 that increases proposed by London Transport would be subject to investigation (see *Trade and Industry*, 14 April). Immediate effect of the commission's decision to investigate was that the increases proposed may not be implemented during the period of the investigation, which must be completed within three months. However, the commission may allow interim increases and was obliged to do so to the extent to which the safeguard regulations operated. The investigation is due to be completed by 12 July.

Footwear: £4.5m assistance scheme

A £4.5 million scheme of selective financial assistance for the footwear manufacturing industry was announced by Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, on Tuesday. Assistance will be made available under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 to encourage improvements in productivity and efficiency. It is aimed particularly at areas of weakness identified by the footwear industry study steering group.

Announcing the scheme in parliament, Mr Williams said that the scheme, together with other government support measures, should meet the industry's requirements. Given a positive response by footwear manufacturers, he was confident that the scheme would play a significant part in assisting the industry to remedy a number of its major internal weaknesses and to ensure its long-term future.

Assistance would be available for approved projects as follows:

Consultancy assistance. A grant of 50 per cent of approved consultancy fees to small- and medium-sized firms for a thorough review of overall operations and proposals for improving their productivity and efficiency.

Investment in machinery. A capital grant of 25 per cent of net eligible costs of machinery and equipment for closing and associated processes.

Rationalisation and/or restructuring. Interest relief grant, or, exceptionally, loans for rationalisation/restructuring projects. Total qualifying costs of a project must not normally be less than £10,000.

Further information can be obtained from the Department of Industry, CT Division, Room 615, Ashdown House, Victoria Street, London SW1E 6RB, tel. 01-212 8712, or from the appropriate Department of Industry regional office; the Scottish Economic Planning Department, Glasgow; the Welsh Office Industry Department, Cardiff; or the Department of Commerce, Belfast.

UK on target for oil self-sufficiency

Royalties from oil and gas production reached £228 million in 1977 compared with £44.2 million in 1976. 'Development of the Oil and Gas Resources of the United Kingdom' – the 1978 report published on Tuesday by the Department of Energy (HMSO, £2.25) also says that oil production is expected to rise from nearly 38 million tonnes last year to between 55 and 65 million tonnes in 1978.

Oil production in 1977 was worth over £2,000 million. A sharp increase in oil exploration activity last year is reported. One hundred and five exploration and appraisal wells were drilled during the year compared with 86 in 1976. The report forecasts that production could rise between 105 and 125 million tonnes in 1982.

The report says that five new oil and two gas condensate discoveries were made during 1977 bringing the total since offshore exploration began in 1964 to 50 oil and 30 gas or gas condensate. Government spending on offshore technology research development rose from £9.6 million in 1976-77 to £14.5 million in 1977-78.

It adds that 1977 was notable for the consolidation of the position of the British National Oil Corporation with the conclusion of participation agreements with most of the major oil companies and with the corporation's involvement in 50 new licences under the fifth round.

Looking ahead to 1978 the report records a number of encouraging prospects, including two new oil fields coming onstream; the first oil into the new Sullom Voe terminal; the drilling of the first fifth-round wells; and the continued

General Manager

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Our Client, a British Company well known in the Telecommunications field, is currently undertaking large scale contracts overseas and requires a General Manager for Nigeria. Operations in Nigeria presently consist of two established Project Organisations but the intention is that these shall form the base for a new Nigerian Company with headquarters in Lagos.

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growth of government revenues from oil and gas which should be around £4 billion a year by the mid-1980s.

Queen's awards

Recipients of this year's Queen's awards represent a wide spread of industrial and commercial activity and size of company: Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and all regions of England are represented.

This year the Queen has made 107 awards to British firms for export achievement and 17 for technological achievement, a total of 124, one less than the number for the 1977 awards.

The number of applications received for the awards was the largest to be recorded, 1860, an increase of 51 over the previous record figure reached last year.

Lists of the winners of the two separate awards can be found on pages 140 (technological achievement) and 158 (export achievement).

Firms asked about support for metrication

Over 100 industrial, commercial and consumer organisations were asked on Tuesday to reconsider and restate their position on metrication. John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, in an open letter, said, 'The success of the metrication programme depends upon co-operation on all sides and it is clearly impossible for the government to proceed against a background of hostility'.

He said that resistance against recent Weights and Measure Act orders had led the government to review whether it could still claim to have universal support for metrication. The choice now facing the country was whether imperial units should be left to wither away over a long period or whether the process should be brought to an orderly conclusion by the beginning of the 1980s.

STATISTICS

Treasury analysis: more openness call

Greater openness should characterise the Treasury's economic analysis, according to a report published on Tuesday (18 April) by the committee on policy optimisation. The report was announced by Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in a written reply to the Commons.

The committee was set up in April 1976 by Edmund Dell, the then Paymaster General, to consider the present state of development of optimal control techniques as applied to macroeconomic policy, and to make recommendations concerning the feasibility and value of applying these techniques in the Treasury.

The committee's central conclusion is that optimal control techniques are, at present, best looked at as part of the total procedure of model building, testing and use. The committee feels that the Treasury should have a capability to investigate and apply these techniques – and so one of its two main recommendations is that the Treasury should establish a research unit.

The other is for the establishment of an advisory council with an independent chairman, and a majority of members drawn from outside the Treasury. The purpose of the council would be to monitor the research programme of the research unit with the council being directly responsible to the Chief Economic Adviser and his permanent secretary colleagues for providing advice and evaluation of methods of model building and forecasting.

Effect of country attribution on trade figures

The UK deficit on trade with the EEC might be 'some hundreds of millions of pounds' smaller if an alternative approach of country attribution could be used in trade statistics.

With an import by country of origin system instead of the present consignment attribution system, the UK's import bill for the EEC in 1977 would be £1,440 million less – £12,595 million instead of £14,035.

The subject is discussed in an article by Ronald Green, a government statistician, published today in our statistics section (see page 168).

'The determination of a bilateral trade balance with a trading partner can be approached by more than one method and, in practice, there is no completely satisfactory method of measurement,' he says.

'The consignment attribution system probably exaggerates the size of the UK deficit with the community and indeed the indications are that the deficit based on the attributes of origin-consumption would be some hundreds of millions of pounds smaller. But attempts at the measurement of an origin-consumption based balance will in practice, be highly imprecise and subject to a wide margin of error.'

EUROPE

Minister flies to Denmark for talks

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, left for Copenhagen on Tuesday (18 April) to discuss current shipping issues with Ivar Norgaard, Danish Minister of Commerce.

This is one of a series of discussions with EEC shipping ministers. The subjects include the UN liner code, the Soviet shipping threat and the *Amoco Cadiz*.

OVERSEAS

Dell upholds open world trading system

Major retailers have a direct interest in the struggle to maintain an open world trading system, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, told an international meeting of traders on Monday. Addressing the sixth world conference of retailers in London, he said that the decisions of the retail trade, which exercised considerable influence over both what was bought and what was made, were crucial in determining the flow of international trade and the balance of payments of individual countries.

Mr Dell said that despite an almost notorious national propensity for importing manufactured goods of all kinds Britain remained convinced of the desirability of defeating creeping protectionism and of the benefits of maintaining, if it could, an open world trading system. That was the government's objective and the end to which its policies were directed.

Hanover fair opens

On Wednesday (19 April) the Hanover fair opened with 103 British companies taking part – the largest national group apart from West Germany. The British Overseas Trade Board is supporting seven joint-venture groups at the fair.

Major displays cover electrical machinery, mechanical engineering equipment, machine tools, lighting, and office and computer technology. For the first time, there is an energy section at the event. Consumer goods on display include ceramics, jewellery, silverware and giftware.

ECGD guarantees $12m loan to Dubai

It was announced on Monday (17 April) that the Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed the repayment and funding for a $12 million loan which Morgan Grenfell and Co Ltd, acting on its own behalf and for Banque De L'Indochine et de Suez, has made available to Saif and Abdulla bin Ahmed Al-Ghurair, a merchant family of Dubai.

The loan will help finance a contract worth $18.6 million awarded by Ghurair and Tarmac Construction Company to Crown House Engineering Ltd for the supply of electrical and mechanical goods and services and other building services for a commercial centre at Dubai.

The centre will comprise shops, blocks of flats and car parks and is scheduled for completion in late 1979.

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A major engineering company, part of a British international group, has formed a new subsidiary with an initial turnover of £10 million and there is a requirement for the key position of Finance Director.

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Suitable candidates, probably aged 35–45, must be qualified accountants or have a business degree with sound financial experience. General management or experience outside the main financial discipline – possibly in consultancy – is also a requirement.

The conditions of service and fringe benefits include free furnished accommodation, car and education assistance.

Write in confidence, quoting reference 2798/Y, to: M. J. H. Coney,

Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.,
Executive Selection Division,
165 Queen Victoria Street,
Blackfriars, London, EC4V 3PD.

Home news

Further measures to aid Ebbw Vale

A further £12 million package of government measures to provide new jobs in the Blaenau Gwent area following the end of steelmaking at Ebbw Vale was announced by John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, on 14 April.

He said that up to £8 million would be allocated to the Welsh Development Agency in 1978-79, over and above its approved budget, to accelerate the development of the Rassau industrial estate and to start a programme to provide 42 000 m² of additional factory space in the Blaenau Gwent area. This would provide accommodation for initially up to 800 to 900 jobs, with the prospect of increasing to double that number.

Substantial progress had already been made with the provision of industrial sites and advance factories; in particular, with the completion of several factories on the new Tafarnaubach industrial estate at Tredegar. These were now being allocated or were the subject of firm inquiries by incoming industry.

Further improvement of road communications was essential if new industry was to be attracted on the scale and in the time required, and full advantage taken of the special development area status, said Mr Morris. The A40 Raglan – Abergavenny dual-carriageway scheme would be started, it was anticipated, early next year, at a cost of over £10 million. This would complete the provision of modern road links between the heads of the valleys and the West Midlands and thus into the country's main motorway network.

But, in addition, Mr Morris considered it very desirable to improve the A467 between Brynmawr and Newport to give good connections with the M4. He would be discussing urgently with Gwent County Council ways to accelerate the major improvement needed – a by-pass between Rogerstone and Risca.

Commenting on the announcement of additional resources for the development agency, he said it was essential to provide more industrial sites and advance factories in the Ebbw Vale area. Following the success of the Tafarnaubach site, the next step was to accelerate Rassau and, since 1976, when he gave planning permission for the site, the agency has been preparing 40 hectares for development.

Hull launches renewed push for investment

'It is always important that local authorities should play a part in underlining government efforts to attract investment in the development areas', said Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, on 12 April. Speaking at the launch of Hull City Council's drive to attract more industrial and commercial investment to the city, he said that it was to be hoped that Hull's development area status would act as a real inducement for industry.

Ian Holden, Hull's director of industrial development, said that prospects for sustaining a faster rate of industrial growth in Hull seemed to be at their brightest for several years. In six months to the end of March this year, 15 new manufacturing projects had begun on land formerly owned by the council.

Hull's diversified economy includes light manufacturing, electrical engineering, offshore supplies, pharmaceuticals, food, clothing and – being a shipping gateway to major trade routes across Europe – packaging and distribution. In the last four years Hull has won an estimated £100 million of new investment involving some 8000 jobs. The city's aim is to create 2000 jobs a year from new development over the next five years.

On behalf of the Department of Industry the English Industrial Estates Corporation is building nine advance factories and later in the year plans to start work on a further 18 units. This is complemented by the city's own developments which will be augmented by 12 more units being started in the spring. Taken all together, Hull has 48 lettable factory premises available.

Budget broadsheet

Main measures and proposals in the 11 April budget are described in a special supplement to the April issue of the Treasury's *Economic Progress Report*. Copies of the broadsheet, which also covers the background and objectives of the budget proposals, are available from Information Division, HM Treasury, Parliament Street, London SW1P 3AG.

Calibration of timepieces taken on by Mercer

Testing of watches and chronometers, previously carried out at the Department of Industry's National Physical Laboratory, was transferred on 13 April to the calibration laboratory of Thomas Mercer Ltd. Mr A. E. Bailey (right), superintendent of the British Calibration Service (BCS) is shown handing the formal approval documents to Mr F. A. Mercer, chairman of the company. Mercer will be calibrating several hundred timepieces a year. Using the coded time information in the standard frequency radio broadcasts from Rugby, Mercer's BCS certificates will reflect the quality of the timepieces precisely as if they had been calibrated at the National Physical Laboratory.

NEB invests in two communications manufacturers, Case . . .

Computer and Systems Engineering Ltd (Case), one of the leading European communications equipment manufacturers, has reached agreement with the National Enterprise Board on an equity and loan investment. Under the terms of the agreement, subject to ratification by Case's shareholders, the board will acquire for £922,000 a 28 per cent shareholding in Case, partly by purchasing existing shares and partly by subscribing for new shares. In addition the board will provide a £1 million loan facility, making a total of £1½ million available for the company's expansion.

Case products include message switches, multiplexers, concentrators, and high-speed

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The vacancy arises because of the impending elevation of the present managing director to chairman. The new Managing Director will assume total responsibility for day-to-day operations, including the maintenance of existing client relationships, the acquisition of new business and the achievement of budget targets.

Age is not a critical factor but the ideal candidate will be a mature, financially-orientated executive with broad-ranging business experience in large organisations, although a spell in consultancy could be particularly relevant. A degree and/or an accounting qualification would be a distinct advantage.

Future prospects are excellent to grow with this dynamic, diversified Group and an attractive remuneration package will be negotiated with the right man or woman.

Please write, in strict confidence, with full career history and current earnings to J. W. C. Bull, Bull, Holmes (Management) Limited, 45 Albemarle Street, London W1X 3FE., who is advising the company on this appointment. Quote ref. 480.

Bull Holmes

PERSONNEL ADVISERS

Training Director

for the Distributive Industry Training Board

The Board is responsible for encouraging the provision of appropriate training for almost 10% of Britain's employed population, who are dispersed amongst some 350,000 companies, public groups and small private businesses. The job of the Training Director is the principal function of the D.I.T.B. and its Division consists of nearly 250 people and 16 national Area Offices. It reports to the Board's Chief Executive, Mr C. J. Mandleberg, at the headquarters in Manchester.

The Training Director is responsible for formulating and recommending training policies and plans to the Board and for ensuring that these meet the balanced needs of both employers and employees, now and for the future. He, or she, is then accountable for implementing the agreed programmes through the Division's field and development staff. The Division has support from the Information and Administration Divisions.

Starting salary will be not less than £12,000 p.a. with pension scheme, car (or car allowance) and removal help.

Candidates, should preferably be aged 38-45, and hold a good honours degree together with an appropriate professional qualification. Previous experience in one of the distributive industries or in a company which serves this industry would be very helpful. He, or she, must have held a senior management role with responsibility for developing, programming and controlling the execution of training policies in a major company or group. The Board envisages a person currently engaged in such work, though someone who has retained an up-to-date interest in the development of training and who is now in senior general management could be equally suitable. The ability to make national appreciations of the industry's needs, to influence future strategies and control a sizeable operating structure requires a combination of intellectual breadth, personal stature, business acumen and a strong management record.

Please write in confidence with brief relevant career details to D.V. Polan, Bull, Holmes (Management) Limited, who are retained to advise the Board on this appointment. Address: 45 Albemarle Street, London W1X 3FE.

Bull Holmes

PERSONNEL ADVISERS

modems. In the financial year just completed Case had a turnover approaching £5 million and profits before tax of approximately £½ million. Exports, at present about 15 per cent of turnover, are planned to expand rapidly in the coming years.

. . . and ATS

The National Enterprise Board has invested £50,000 to purchase 30 per cent of the ordinary share capital of Automation and Technical Services (Holdings) Ltd (ATS), of Haywards Heath. ATS are suppliers of fixed logic telemetry systems and communications equipment for the telegraph market. The board has subscribed a further £100,000 in 7 per cent cumulative participating preference shares, redeemable between 1981 and 1986. The company which began in 1969, employs 38 people and has more than doubled its sales in the last two years. Its present turnover is running at over £750,000 per annum.

ICI agrees to hold price of soda ash

An undertaking offered by Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd not to apply to the Price Commission for a further increase in the price of soda ash before 1 July 1978 has been accepted by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The commission's report (HC332, HMSO, price 45p) on its investigation into a price increase proposed by ICI for soda ash (sodium carbonate) was published on 13 April. The report recommended that there should be no restriction on the price increase as notified but that the notified price should not be further increased before 18 November 1978. Any price increase after 1 July will require a prenotification to the commission which will then have to consider its merits in the usual way.

The commission said that ICI was, and was likely to remain, the dominant supplier of soda ash to British industry – chiefly the glass, chemicals and soap/detergent industries. Bearing this position in mind, it concluded that, after the proposed increase, ICI would have a return on capital and cash flow in 1978 from the soda ash business sufficient to maintain the business on a profitable basis and provide adequate funds to finance the present phase of the investment programme aimed at revitalising the company's three soda ash plants.

Rail fares to be held till December

British Rail has reaffirmed to the Secretaries of State for Prices and Consumer Protection and for Transport that it hopes to avoid any further general increases for the rest of the year. This was stated on 10 April when Roy Hattersley and William Rodgers, after consulting the British Rail Board, gave their conclusions on the Price Commission's report on the board's January increase in passenger fares (*Trade and Industry*, 24 February, page 399).

The secretaries of state would welcome any steps British Rail could take to add to public understanding of the costs and revenues of the London and south-east commuter services, and to demonstrate the need for fare increases on these services, especially if they were higher than average. They were glad to note the commission's conclusion that the board had made good progress in adopting forward-looking policies in accounting practice, commercial strategy and marketing.

The commission's suggestion that the board should make it clear that their marketing policy was more than a purely commercial maximisation of revenue was welcomed. British Rail's general aim, within the constraint of the grant ceiling, was to maximise passenger miles in the various main sectors of the business and to hold a balance between the different types of travellers.

On other points raised by the commission, the board had confirmed that it already applied methods for identifying excessive divergences from average rates per mile for comparable journeys. It would continue its efforts to simplify the fares structure without losing revenue, and to let the public know about the reduced fares available at the point of sale.

The Secretary of State for Transport had considered the commission's suggestion that there should be specific recompense within the public service obligation grant for losses arising from investment decisions taken on other than commercial grounds. The effects of such investments were in fact already taken into account when setting the ceiling for the grant; and were fully reflected in the calculations on which the annual grant payment is based.

Cryer tours Yarsley testing centre

Bob Cryer, second left, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, during his visit to the Yarsley Technical Centre Ltd on 14 April, discusses the flexural fatigue of skateboards with Jim Older (left). A series of laboratory tests and field trials is being conducted on skateboards of different designs and materials to assist with the establishment of British standards. Dr Yarsley (centre back) and Dr W. E. Duckworth (right), a director of the centre, accompanied Mr Cryer.

Weetabix increases allowed in full

The Price Commission considers that the increases proposed by Weetabix Ltd should be allowed in full: these are for weighted averages of 8.74 per cent on Weetabix cereal products and 6.51 per cent on Alpen and other muesli products. As interim increases of 6.36 per cent on Weetabix products and 6.46 per cent on Alpen and other muesli products have already been allowed under the profit safeguard regulations, the recommendation would allow further increases of 2.38 per cent and 0.05 per cent respectively.

The report of the commission's investigation into increases proposed by Weetabix Ltd in the prices of its breakfast foods was published on 13 April (HC336, HMSO, price 55p). In reaching its conclusion the commission had in view particularly the company's need to provide money for innovations and technical improvements and for expansion in the United Kingdom.

The commission comments on the way in which credit reaches the company for disposals of cereal waste. Wheat is purchased from Whitworth Holdings Ltd Group under an agreement providing for Whitworth to limit its profit to an agreed percentage on cost in return for receiving all cereal waste from Weetabix Ltd free of charge. The commission believes

To all Chairmen and Managing Directors

The following executives are seeking to further their careers within fields where proven experience counts and is rewarded accordingly

FINANCE

1. **Management Trainee.** MA (Hons) Cantab. Fluent French, good German, some Spanish and Italian. 2½ years' experience in major general insurance group. An intelligent and ambitious self-starter who seeks greater career development and use of his languages in a smaller more dynamic company.
Age 24 Salary £4,500+

2. **Management Accountant.** Part qualified ACMA. 13 years' experience with industrial groups. Seeking overseas contract prior to completing examination.
Age 29 Salary circa £9,000

3. **Head of Finance.** ACA, J Dip MA. Exceptionally able and successfull F/D. Having recently reconstructed the financial management and organisation of a large diversified group following 6 years in industrial management, he now seeks fresh fields to conquer.
Age 30 Salary circa £15,000

4. **Assistant Controller.** ACA, ACMA. A very able and practical technical accountant. Widely travelled with 4 years in the oil industry. Wishes to move because of severe promotion blockage within the group. Location flexible. **Age 32 Salary £9,000**

5. **Group Financing Manager.** MS (Cantab) Hons, ACA. With substantial manufacturing company experience including 30 factories and 80+selling points. A complete professional who seeks a more demanding task in the UK or USA. **Age 32 Salary £13,000**

6. **Senior Financial Executive.** ACA, BCom 1st Class. Substantial experience in the profession and some in industry. A good knowledge of takeover situations and of the financial services. He now wishes to make a career move from the profession back into commerce or industry. **Age 33 Salary £12,000**

7. **Company Secretary/Chief Accountant.** FCIS. He has international group holding company experience covering animal feed products, steel importing and general trading. **Age 33 Salary £8,000**

8. **Actuary.** BSc (Hons), FIA, ASA, FIPM. Fluent German, good French, some Italian and Spanish. With composite insurance company experience including marketing and full client relationship, especially relating to pensions. Seeking career development move leading towards general management. **Age 34 Salary £15,000**

9. **Director.** Good French and German. An experienced commodity broker with foreign exchange, merchant banking and arbitrage experience. Returning from the USA for family reasons, seeking new opportunity in London. **Age 38 Salary circa £12,000**

10. **Finance Director.** BA (International Econ), MBA (Finance). A highly capable manager of special projects in large multi-national seeking the opportunity to widen his responsibilities and experience. A high flyer.
Age 34 Salary negotiable

11. **Finance Director.** BSc, 1st Class PhD, ACCA. A highly intelligent and able senior executive with substantial experience in both Governmental and industrial financial management. T.O. 120m. Seeks career move to more demanding post with international involvement.
Age 37 Salary £15,000

12. **Financial Director – Deputy M/D.** FCA, ACMA. Good French with wide international manufacturing company experience especially in Europe. An experienced acquisition negotiator as deputy M/D. A man of considerable further potential in the higher echelons.
Age 44 Salary £15,000+

MARKETING

13. **Graduate Salesman.** BA (Hons) Oxon. Fluent French, good German. An ambitious self starter with some sales experience in Europe wishes to become an export salesman operating from a UK base. Has both enterprise and potential and a desire to use his linguistic ability. **Age 22 Salary £3,500+**

14. **Graduate/Saleswoman.** BA Hons. Fluent French and Japanese, good Korean. A mature and confident young saleswoman well suited to the artistic or prestige markets. Location flexible. **Age 22 Salary £3,500+**

15. **Marketing Analyst.** BA (Hons) Oxon. Fluent French and German, Good Italian. An impressive and numerate young executive with 2 years' experience in major capital equipment group. Seeks greater 'sharp end' selling involvement. A potential higher flyer.
Age 24 Salary £6,000+

16. **Export/Import Manager.** BA (Hons). Fluent French and German with a good practical knowledge of the French and German markets, especially in fruit and vegetables. Seeks career development and greater opportunity to use his language. Entirely flexible as to location and product. **Age 26 Salary £6,000+**

17. **Marketing Manager.** BA (Hons), MSc Management Studies. A high flyer with excellent record in consumer durables and food and drink products. He has an entrepreneural drive to widen his experience. Location flexible. **Age 28 Salary £8,000+**

18. **Admin Executive.** BA (Hons). Fluent French, good German, some Russian. An articulate and likeable civil servant who wishes to move into export marketing to use his languages more effectively. He is of impressive potential. **Age 29 Salary £5,000+**

19. **Group Product Manager.** An impressive record with the market leaders in the textile, food products and electrical goods industries. A professional who seeks greater international involvement and improved remuneration. **Age 34 Salary £10,000**

20. **Export Sales Engineer.** BSc (Hons) Mech Eng. Fluent Spanish, some French. An able engineer with design, production and export sales experience of instruments, controls and handling equipment in South America and Eastern Europe. Promotion and salary blockage.
Age 31 Salary £6,500

21. **European Marketing Manager.** BA (Hons). A successful record in toiletries, toys and food. Has controlled a substantial sales force and sold to large wholesale and retail customers. Seeking career development and increased remuneration. **Age 34 Salary £10,000**

22. **Marketing Director and Deputy M/D.** MIPM, Dip Sociology. Good French and German, impressive record in personnel development, prestige direct and 'mail-sho' ' marketing. Promotion blockage. A potential high flyer. **Age 34 Salary £14,000+**

23. **Marketing/Sales/General Manager.** Some French and Italian. An exceptionally able executive with extensive knowledge of very large wholesale and retail trading in food and consumer products. 200+ outlets. Frustrated at present group's lethargy seeks more dynamic responsibility, prepared to be very flexible.
Age 44 Salary circa £14,000

24. **Group Sales Director/GM.** BA (Hons). With substantial and successful experience in the automotive industry – including international fleet sales and franchise operations as Regional Manager. A good knowledge of Scandinavia and Africa and is good general management material. **Age 39 Salary £14,000**

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

25. **Farm Manager.** BSc Agric. With international experience in mixed stock and arable land farming. Ambitious to create capital and increase remuneration.
Age 27 Salary £5,000+

26. **Air Conditioning Mechanic.** HNC Tech. Spoken Arabic with 12 years' practical and international experience. Seeking a career development move.
Age 28 Salary £6,000+

27. **Conference/Seminar Manager.** BA (Hons). Fluent French, German, good Italian. With 5 years governmental and institutional experience in Europe.
Age 28 Salary £5,000

28. **M/D-F/D.** FCA. A tough professional Chief Executive who has successfully turned round medium sized Anglo American manufacturing company. Now seeking career development in a larger general management or financial role. **Age 33 Salary £14,000**

29. **General/Marketing Manager.** BA Hons. Good Russian. German and French. excellent record in toiletries, household products and pharmaceuticals with major group. A good knowledge of Africa.
Age 42 Salary circa £10,000

30. **General Manager/Mining Engineer.** BSc. CEng. A successful mine manager with considerable IR experience (3 500 employees). Seeking a career move because of promotion blockage and salary freeze frustration. **Age 45 Salary £10,000+**

31. **Chief Executive/Marine Consultant.** CEng, FIMarE, MCMS. Most successful as the Chief Executive of a major terminal and as a Chief Marine Superintendent. A good knowledge of Middle East, Scandinavia and Greece. Seeking career development with demanding group. **Age 45 Salary £10,000+**

32. **Chief Executive.** BSc (Econ) 1st Class, MBA Harvard. Some Italian. In addition to 5 years' successful experience as an M/D he has large international group experience for corporate planning, acquisitions, etc in products ranging from shipping and shoes to building materials. He has a first class marketing background.
Age 43 Salary £18,000

33. **Personnel Director.** MA (Industrial Relations), Dip Ed MIPM. Holding responsibility for all personnel and IR matters in major international diversified group (250,000+ personnel). Sound relationship with major unions. A top level negotiator. Seeking career move, ideally concerned with the institutions or service industries. **Age 46 Salary £14,000+**

34. **Chief Executive.** MA (Oxon). Bilingual French with his strong marketing background, he has been most successful in products which include industrial capacitors, pumps, hand tools, automotive products and plastics. A good leader seeking greater responsibility.
Age 49 Salary £15,000

35. **Personnel Director.** CEng, FIPM. Good French, German, Italian, Spanish. With major international manufacturing group experience responsibility for industrial relations, management development and training. Location flexible. **Age 51 Salary £18,000**

36. **Production Director.** MA (Cantab), CEng, FRAeS, FIEE. Good French. Holding world wide responsibility for telecommunications network and other sophisticated equipment and transport involving £700m+ turnover and 100 000 personnel. Seeking a career move.
Age 55 Salary negotiable

NOTES
(i) All the above executives have been interviewed by us and we consider them to be high quality material in their particular range – there are several others whom space precludes.

(ii) If you require an executive of similar capability please contact me.

(iii) If you yourself feel that you match these standards and might benefit from a new opportunity please contact me in the strictest confidence and without any obligation.

Robin R. Scholley

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Measures to boost confidence of small firms

Measures costing £200 million a year which will be of particular help to small firms were announced by Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his budget statement last week (*Trade and Industry*, 14 April, page 54).

Speaking on 12 April, Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, emphasised that the budget measures were not a once-and-for-all package. They were part of a developing policy in which government was going to show a continuous responsiveness to the needs of small firms.

'What, above all, we are trying to do with small firms,' he said, 'is to create an atmosphere of confidence and increased enthusiasm for expansion and achievement in the small firm sector.'

Entrepeneurs will be encouraged to set up unincorporated small businesses by means of income tax relief for trading losses in the first years of the firm. Various capital gains and transfer tax measures serve to make small businesses more attractive to investors.

The following are the details of the new measures:

Income tax

☐ **Carry back relief for initial trading losses of unincorporated businesses** There is to be a new relief which will help individual entrepreneurs to get started (for example, the employee leaving employment to set up a new business on his own) by enabling them to obtain relief earlier than under existing law for any losses made in the first years. At present, an individual or individual member of a partnership can claim relief for a trading loss either against total income of the year of loss or following year (section 168, Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970) or against future profits of the trade (section 171). Under the new proposals he will, as an alternative, be able to claim to carry back a trading loss sustained in the first tax year in which he trades or in any of the next three years and set it against income of the previous three years, including for example his earnings from employment. This relief will apply to losses sustained in 1978-79 or later.

Capital gains tax

☐ **Relief for losses on loans and guarantee payments** There is to be a new relief from capital gains tax when a loan used by the borrower for trading purposes has become irrecoverable. The lender will be able to set off his loss against capital gains of the same or a later year. Sums paid by a guarantor of such a loan will qualify in a similar way. This relief will apply to loans made after 11 April. It will not extend to loans between spouses or between companies which are members of the same group for capital gains purposes.

☐ **Rollover relief for gifts of business assets.** Capital gains arising after today on the gift of assets used in a business, or of shares in a family trading company will be rolled over to the donee where the donor and donee jointly so claim. Any retirement relief due to the donor will be given first. Where the assets have not been used wholly for the purposes of the trade or, in the case of shares, the family company owns assets which are not used for the purposes of its trade, an appropriate proportion of the gains will qualify for rollover. This new relief supersedes the existing relief in respect of gifts of agricultural property, which is therefore repealed for gifts made after 11 April.

☐ **Retirement relief – new limit.** Where an individual qualifies for retirement relief in respect of gains arising on the disposal after 11 April of a business (or part of a business), or of shares in a family trading company, the maximum amount of the exemption will be increased. For every year by which his age exceeds 60 the new limit will be £10,000 in place of £4,000 (with a corresponding part for a part of a year), rising to £50,000 in place of £20,000 at age 65.

☐ **Replacement of business assets.** There are to be two improvements in the existing rollover relief for business assets disposed of and replaced. For assets replaced after today a person carrying on two or more trades, either successively or at the same time, will be treated as if the separate trades were a single trade. Secondly, the relief is to be given to a shareholder of a family trading company who owns and replaces an asset, if both the old and the new assets are used for the purposes of the company's trade.

Corporation tax

☐ ***Small companies rate of corporation tax.*** Companies with profits below a certain limit pay a specially reduced rate of corporation tax on their income and there is a corresponding marginal relief for those with profits below a higher limit. These limits, which last year were increased to £40,000 and £65,000 are being raised to £50,000 and £85,000 respectively for the year to 31 March 1978 and later.

☐ **Apportionment of trading income of close trading companies.** The exemption limit for apportionment of trading income is to be increased substantially. If the relevant income of a close company for a particular accounting period exceeds its actual distributions, the excess may be apportioned among the members of the company. Where a trading company has estate or trading income of no more than £5,000 after corporation tax for an accounting period of one year, however, none of its estate or trading income counts as relevant income (paragraphs 9 (2)-(3), schedule 16, Finance Act 1972); where this income is between £5,000 and £15,000 it is abated by one-half of the difference between the income and £15,000. (The figures are reduced where the company has one or more associated companies.) These figures are to be increased to £25,000 and £75,000 respectively, net of corporation tax, in respect of the whole of any accounting period ending after 26 October 1977.

☐ **Apportionment: acquisition of businesses.** A further easing of the apportionment rules is being introduced for those close trading companies still left within the field for apportionment and for close companies with are members of trading groups. At present these companies cannot claim the cost of acquiring the first business, eg the need to repay a 'first business loan,' or of acquiring a later unconnected business as a reason for not distributing income so as to avoid having their income apportioned. For accounting periods ending on or after 11 April, the cost of acquiring a trade will count as a requirement of the company's business for this purpose, except where the acquisition is from an associated company.

Capital allowances

☐ ***Industrial buildings allowance.***
The change in the industrial buildings allowance rules announced by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury in a written answer on 14 February 1978 in connection with advance factories will be of particular assistance to small firms. This will enable a lessee who has paid a premium for a lease of more than 50 years of an industrial building to qualify for industrial buildings allowance following a joint election with the lessor. The full text of the parliamentary question and answer was given in a press release dated 15 February 1978.

Stock relief

☐ **Continuation.** Small firms are particularly concerned about the future of stock relief. The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced on 11 April his intention to continue the present stock relief scheme indefinitely and, subject to any progress made in the meantime towards a permanent scheme, to introduce legislation next year to limit the build-up of deferred tax liabilities.

Farmers

☐ ***Special measures.*** In recognition of the exceptional vulnerability of agricultural to climatic conditions and its capital intensive nature, farmers, except companies, will be enabled to average their profits over two consecutive years of assessment where the difference between them is 30 per cent or more. The captial allowances for expenditure on agricultural buildings and works are to be improved by allowing 30 per cent of the cost to be claimed in the first year (instead of the present 10 per cent) with consequential allowances of 10 per cent over the following seven years.

Capital transfer tax

☐ **Threshold.** As announced by the Chancellor of the Exhequer in October 1977 the threshold for liability to capital transfer tax was increased from £15,000 to £25,000 for transfers after 26 October 1977.

☐ ***Business relief.*** The Chancellor of the Exchequer also announced in October 1977 that the relief for controlling shareholdings and interests in unincorporated businesses was being increased from 30 per cent to 50 per cent and a new relief at 20 per cent was to be given for minority shareholdings in unquoted companies. There will be no limit on the value of the transfers eligible for these extensions of the relief, which apply to transfers made after 26 October 1977.

Charges on the disposal of timber, following an election to defer payment of tax on the death of the timber owner, have not previously qualified for business relief. Disposals after 26 October 1977 will now qualify for relief, at 50 per cent, provided that the conditions for business relief would have been satisfied on the death.

☐ ***Transfers to employee trusts.*** The conditions that have to be met to secure exemption (and capital gains tax rollover relief) for a gift of shares by an individual to an employee trust are being relaxed for transfers on or after 11 April 1978. The individual will no longer need to give all his holding, nor will the trustees need to acquire substantially all the shares in the company. Instead, it will be sufficient for the trust to obtain the majority of the ordinary shares, and voting control. The exemption will also apply to transfers on death. Gifts to common ownership or co-operative enterprise can qualify for the reliefs if they are made via employee trusts.

Value added tax

☐ **Registration and deregistration limits.** The registration limit for VAT is being increased from £7,500 per annum to £10,000 per annum from 12 April 1978. In addition the deregistration limit will be increased from £6,000 per annum to £8,500 per annum, but for practical reasons this will not take effect until 1 July 1978. There will be proportionate increases in the quarterly limits. It is estimated that the change in the deregistration limit will enable up to 90 000 taxable persons who regularly pay VAT to deregister if they so wish, though it is envisaged in the light of previous experience that many prefer to remain registered.

☐ ***Relief on bad debts.*** The government will be bringing forward in the finance bill a proposal to allow relief from VAT on bad debts where the debtor becomes formally insolvent after 1 October 1978.

☐ **Simplification of procedures.** In addition the Commissioners of Customs and Excise will over the next few months be introducing a number of changes in order to simplify VAT procedures, especially for small businesses. These changes cover:

- modification of the rules for partial exemption to increase the number of traders elegible for full deduction of input tax;
- simplification of the VAT return form later in the year;
- removal of the existing restrictions on alignment of VAT accounting periods with traders' accounting years for all businesses with a turnover of £50,000 per annum or less;
- encouragement to small businesses to simplify their VAT accounting by using cash book records for input tax purposes;
- increase in the limit for less detailed tax invoices from £10 to £25.

that the incentive to reduce wastage through increased efficiency could be blunted by this arrangement and that both companies 'would be well advised to have separate agreements to cover purchases of wheat and disposal of waste'. Weetabix's sales force also sells Whitworth products for which service Whitworth is charged. The commission considers that 'the fairness of the charge should be supported by an auditor's report'.

Price increases of CPC subsidiary investigated

Price increases proposed last month by CPC (United Kingdom) Ltd, the UK subsidiary of CPC International are to be investigated by the Price Commission. The company wants to increase by an overall weighted average of 7.34 per cent the prices of part of its industrial range of products, which includes maize starch, glucose syrups, starch-derived products such as starch blends and roll-dried starches, and glucose-drived products such as brewing sugars, caramel and Dextrose.

The commission notified the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection on 13 April that it intended to investigate the

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increases. The effect of the commission's decision to investigate is that the increases proposed may not be implemented during the period of the investigation which must be completed by 16 July.

Running credit minimum repayment requirement lifted

Minimum repayment requirements are to be removed on 2 May from credit sale agreements which are exempt from control where payment is made by way of an agreement for running-account credit. The 'running-account credit agreement' exemption will in future apply where the cash price of the goods is not more than £1,000. The relaxation applies mainly to what are usually called option or store accounts. Other credit-sale agreements will be subject to control.

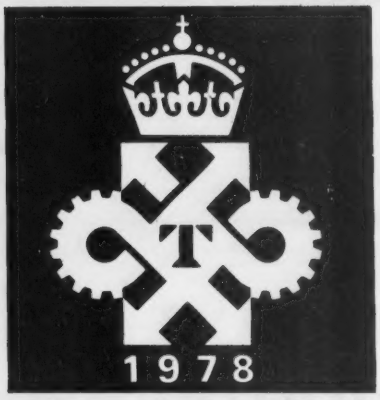
This change in credit control was the subject of an order laid on 11 April by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The order, which amends the Hire-Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) Order 1976 applies to running account credit agreements – agreements where, subject to any credit limit, the debt outstanding can be varied by the customer through further drawings (or purchases) or through repayments; it includes credit cards and option and store accounts.

Water pollution controls to be extended

Powers to control pollution of nearly all inland waters, and tidal and coastal waters up to a three-mile limit, are to be extended, announced Denis Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, on 13 April. He said that the Secretary of State for Wales and he were proposing to implement the remaining provisions of part II of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 by the end of 1979.

The background to this decision was the National Water Council's proposals, which recommended the establishment of environmental quality objectives for rivers in England and Wales and the setting of existing and future discharge consent conditions in the light of these objectives. This was an important development in pollution control which would provide a better basis for planning future investment and for informed discussion of priorities for the further improvement of water quality.

Most of part II and a few provisions in part I of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 remain to be implemented. Part I deals with waste on land. Part II consolidates and extends powers to control pollution of nearly all inland waters, including specified underground waters, and tidal and coastal water up to a three-mile limit. Controls previously covered only non-tidal waters unless special powers were taken for defined areas. Part II will also provide – in the interests of more open administration – for the opening to the public of registers recording details of discharges and samples of effluent and will remove the present inhibition on private prosecutions.



The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology have been announced today

see pages 140 and 158

These are British industry's highest accolades. *Trade and Industry* will be covering the recipient companies on 12 May in a special feature on the companies and their products.

This issue will be a handy reference guide to the cream of British industry this year – those companies whose products and achievements have helped to lead the country's economic recovery.

For details of advertising rates in this issue please contact Terry Day on 01-242 9478, or (in the north) Alan Loftus on 061-766 2191.

Trade and Industry – for those who need to know.

Degree day service: figures for March

Degree day figures for March, published by the Department of Energy, are shown in the table. This service is designed to help industry and commerce improve the efficiency with which space heating systems are used.

By comparing the amount of fuel used with the number of degree days in monthly periods of different years, energy managers and others can monitor the performance of heating plant and operate it more economically.

Detailed information about the system is contained in a free booklet *Degree Days* (no. 7 in the Fuel Efficiency series) available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 3394. It explains the theory and practice of using the figures and contains a map showing the locations of the 17 Meteorological Office stations and the regions covered.

March degree days (base temperature 15.5 degrees C)

Region	Calculated average for Mar 1957-77	1977 Mar	1978 Mar
Thames Valley	285	238	249
South East	307	261	283
Southern	297	244	260
South West	270	224	246
Severn Valley	294	244	259
Midland	322	281	272
West Pennines	308	261	268
North West	321	271	279
Borders	334	295	290
North East	320	280	271
East Pennines	307	278	271
East Anglia	319	267	274
West Scotland	319	284	290
East Scotland	328	300	299
North East Scotland	348	317	312
Wales	296	257	279
Northern Ireland	314	278	290

Trade Indemnity

Points from Mr. K. M. Bevins's statement to shareholders

RESULTS

On 31st December 1977, the 1975 Underwriting Account was closed and produced a most satisfactory underwriting profit of £1,736,632. After adding investment income of £934,680 and charging tax of £1,319,000, the net profit carried down was £1,352,312.

The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 5.32693p per share which, with the interim dividend of 3.07155p per share is the maximum permitted.

GENERAL

The pattern of failures in the U.K. in 1977 was distorted by bankruptcy legislation which took effect at the end of the previous year, introducing higher monetary limits for bankruptcy proceedings and increased deposits on petitions. In consequence, the number of bankruptcies fell sharply last year, whereas the number of company liquidations, which are of greater significance to the Company and its policy-holders, showed no marked change from 1976; indeed, in the first nine months of last year company failures registered by the Department of Trade were at a slightly higher level than in the comparable period of 1976. In addition, several major companies were put into receivership.

NEW BUSINESS

Although the volume of business from existing policy-holders remained virtually unchanged in 1977, business from new clients made a significant contribution to the Company's premium income last year. This is an indication that more and more businesses are appreciating the value of credit insurance as the ultimate protection against losses arising from the insolvency of customers.

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1977 are available from The Secretary, Trade Indemnity House, 12-34 Great Eastern Street, London EC2A 3AX.

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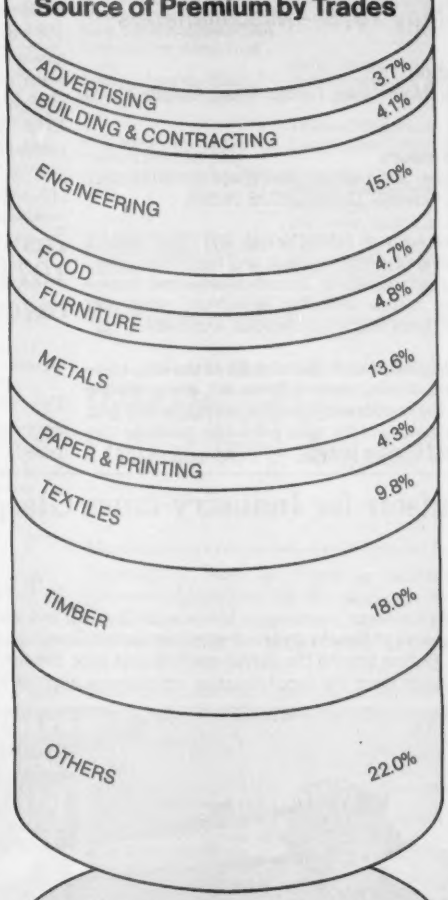
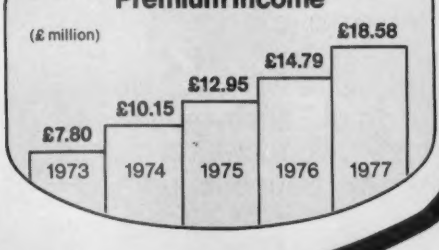
Highlights from the Accounts

	1977	1976
Premiums written	£18.58m	£14.79m
Profit after Tax	£1.35m	£1.05m
Shareholders' Funds	£6.61m	£5.56m

Source of Premium by Trades



Premium Income



Government sales

Sales by auction

2-3 May 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location
Garrison Theatre, Bicester, Oxon

Auctioneers
Midland Marts Ltd (Dept L), 4 Market Square, Bicester, Oxon (08692 2073)

Stores lying at Bicester and other depots comprising clothing and textiles, vehicles, machine tools, tentage, tyres and MT spares, engineer and electronic equipment, furniture and other items.

10 May 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location
Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle, Cumbria

Auctioneers
Harrison and Hetherington (Dept L), Borderway Mart, Rosehill, Carlisle (0228 26292)

Stores lying at RAF Carlisle and other depots including clothing, machine and hand tools, general electrical items, aircraft spares and instruments, metals including aluminium, steel and brass, tyres and a few vehicles and cranes.

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneer from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p (Postal Orders only).

University grants announced

The universities recurrent grant for the 1978-79 academic year would be £619 million with an additional £41.6 million for furniture and equipment, Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told parliament on 10 April. She also gave provisional indications for the following three years, on the same price basis as the grant for 1978-79.

The 1978-79 grant was calculated on the assumption that pay increases for all university staff were expected to rise by between 6 and 10 per cent and prices by 6 to 7 per cent.

Provisional figures for later years at constant prices were £635 million for 1979-80, £648 million for 1980-81, and £670 million for 1981-82. In arriving at these figures it was assumed that tuition fees would remain constant in real terms; the number of university students would grow to about 285 200 in 1978-79, when 237 300 were expected to be undergraduates and 47 900 postgraduates, and would reach 310 000 in 1981-82 when about 16 per cent might be postgraduates.

Insurance Companies Act 1974: authorisations and revocations

The following authorisations to carry on insurance business in Great Britain were issued by the Secretary of State for Trade under section 3(1) of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 during the period 1 March to 31 March 1978.

Name of insurer and registered office or address in GB	Country of incorporation if outside GB	Date of authorisation	Class or classes of insurance business for which authorisation was issued
City Insurance Company Vincula House Tower Place London EC3P 3BE	USA	31.3.78	4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12
Crown Life Assurance Company Limited Crown Life House Crown Square Woking Surrey GU21 1XW	—	15.3.78	OLT
Mannheimer Versicherungs-gesellschaft c/o Folgate Underwriting Agency Ltd 40 Lime Street London EC3M 5BS	Germany	15.3.78	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16

The following authorisations to carry on insurance business in Great Britain were revoked by the Secretary of State for Trade under section 9 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 during the period 1 March to 31 March 1978.

Name of insurer and registered office or address in GB	Country of incorporation if outside GB	Date of revocation	Class or classes of insurance business for which authorisation was revoked
Commercial Union Insurance Co PO Box 420 St Helen's 1Undershaft London EC3P 3DQ	USA	6.3.78	7, 8, 9
INA Reinsurance Company 8/11 Lime Street London EC3M 7NA	USA	2.3.78	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
Northern Assurance Company of America PO Box 420 St Helen's 1 Undershaft London EC3P 3DQ	USA	7.3.78	7, 8, 9
The Refractories Industries Compensation Fund Ltd 213 Piccadilly London W1V 9LD		2.3.78	13
River Forth Insurance Company Ltd 150/152 Fenchurch Street London EC3M 6BN		31.3.78	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
Rugby and District Association of Hospital Contributors 24 Albert Street Rugby CV21 2RT		2.3.78	1, 2, 14, 15, 16, 17

Classes of business

OLT	Ordinary long-term insurance business
IND	Industrial assurance business
1	Accident insurance business
2	Sickness insurance business
3	Land vehicles insurance business
4	Railway rolling stock insurance business
5	Aircraft insurance business
6	Ships insurance business
7	Goods in transit insurance business
8	Fire and natural forces insurance business
9	Damage to property insurance business
10	Motor vehicle liability insurance business
11	Aircraft liability insurance business
12	Liability for ships insurance business
13	General liability insurance business
14	Credit insurance business
15	Suretyship insurance business
16	Miscellaneous financial loss insurance business
17	Legal expenses insurance business

Minister for Industry tours Glasgow shipyards

Gerald Kaufman (in helmet), Minister of State for Industry, talks to James Lincoln and his workmates at Govan shipyard when he visited Govan and Yarrow Shipbuilders in Glasgow on 7 April. Before touring the Govan yard he met shop stewards and management. Among the topics discussed were the reconstruction programme and the Polish order building schedule.

Moneylenders Acts 1900 to 1927

The following companies held orders of exemption at 31 March 1978 issued under section 6(e) of the Moneylenders Act 1900.

A. Booth (Estates) Ltd
Afforestation Finance Ltd
Agricultural Supplies (Cambridge) Ltd
Airedale Investment Ltd
Alex Lawrie Factors Ltd
ANZ Overseas Finance Ltd
Ashbrae Finance (UK) Ltd
Austin Morris Group Facilities Ltd

B. A. Finance Ltd
B. S. G. Finance Ltd
Banca Commerciale Italiana Ltd
Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Ltd
Beamtenheimstattenwerk Gemeinnutzige Bausparkasse Fur Den Offentlichen Dienst Gesellschaft Mit Beschranker Haftung
Bentworth Trust Ltd
Book Trade Improvement Ltd
British Maritime Trust Ltd
Bucks Land and Building Co Ltd
Builders and General Mortgage Co Ltd, (The)
B. W. Trade Facilities Ltd

CDFC (Ceylon) Ltd
CDFC International Ltd
CDFC (Malaysia) Ltd
Cameron Fund Ltd, (The)
Canadian Ashland Finance (UK) Ltd
Capital Development Co Ltd
Chrysler Wholesale Ltd
Ciba Geigy (GFS) Ltd
CIN Industrial Finance Ltd
Circle and Piotrkow Provident and Investment Society Ltd
City and Colonial Trust Ltd
Claymore Field (Finance) Ltd
Commerce International Trust Ltd
Commonwealth Development Finance Co Ltd
Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas

D. F. J. Charles Ltd
Deutsche Bank (UK) Finance Ltd
Development Finance International Ltd
Diaome Ltd
Dominion Charter Merchant Trust Ltd
Dorset, Somerset and Wilts Investment Society Ltd
Dreghorn Holdings Ltd
Dunlop Investments Ltd
Dunlop Securities Ltd

EBS Investments Ltd
English Association Investment Trading Co Ltd, (The)
Equipment Credit Ltd

Faircliffe Finance Co Ltd, (The)
Farnworth Finance Facilities Ltd
Fenlock Investments
Finance Corporation for Industry Ltd
Finfur Ltd
First Maryland Finance Ltd
First National Housing Trust Ltd
Ford Financial Trust Ltd
Ford Motor Credit Co Ltd
F. W. Developments Ltd

GEC Investments Ltd
Gee and Watson (Welfare and Benevolent) Ltd
General Reversionary and Investment Co Ltd
Grand Metropolitan (Finance) Ltd

Henderson Administration Ltd
Heritable Securities and Mortgage Investment Association Ltd, (The)
Hobbart Properties Ltd
Hoeschst Finance Ltd
Hogarth Finance Ltd
Home and Country Properties Ltd

Independent Factors Ltd
Indochine Finance (UK) Ltd
Insurance Export Finance Co Ltd
I. S. Blomfield Ltd
Ivor Hill (Investments) Ltd

J. P. Morgan Interfunding Corporation
John Laing Construction (Finance) Ltd
J. T. Group Ltd
Jubilee Money Society Ltd

Lancashire and Yorkshire Reversionary Interest Co Ltd
Langersal Ltd
Langham Life Finance Ltd
Law Reversionary Interest Society Ltd, (The)
Lington Holdings Ltd
Liverpool Reversionary Co Ltd, (The)
L. L. and E. Finance (GB) Ltd
Lloyds and Scottish Finance Ltd
London Mercantile Finance Ltd
London Mercantile Guarantee Ltd
Lyle Finance International Ltd

Mall Trust Corporation Ltd
Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance Ltd
Master Bakers and Confectioners Finance Co Ltd
Merban Ltd
Methodist Chapel Aid Association Ltd
Midland Industries (Finance) Ltd
Millbank Development Services Ltd
MIT Securities Ltd

National and Commercial Development Capital Ltd
National Film Finance Consortium Ltd
NCNB (Export Finance) Ltd
New York London Trustee Co Ltd

Oakmere Finance Ltd
Ogden Street Estates Ltd
Ordinto Investments Ltd

Pan American Employees Mutual Association Ltd
Paribas Finance Ltd
Phoenix Redcliffe Ltd
Piper Finance Ltd
Pleasure Heating Finance and Developments Ltd
Property Investment and Finance (Developments) Ltd

Queen Street Trust Ltd

Raleigh Industries (Gradual Payments) Ltd
Rediffusion Finance Ltd
Renault Acceptance Ltd
RIB Eastern Ltd
Rio Tinto Finance and Exploration Ltd
RMC Finance Ltd
Robert Fleming and Co Ltd
Roitex Ltd
RTZ Finance Ltd

SCR Finance Ltd
St James's Development Trust Ltd
St Paul's Guarantee Corporation Ltd
Sale Tilney (Finance) Ltd
Scottish and European Finance Ltd
Selap Ltd
Selection Trust Ltd
Ship Mortgage Finance Co Ltd
Small Industries Council for Rural Areas of Scotland
South Birmingham Savings Society Ltd
Southsea Mortgage and Investment Co Ltd
Standard Guarantee Ltd
Swiss Bank Corporation (International) Ltd

TKM Credit Corporation Ltd
TKM Factors Ltd
Thomson North Sea Finance Co Ltd
Toronto Dominion Bank Investment (UK) Ltd
Treesford Securities Ltd
TWA United Kingdom Credit Union Employees Ltd

UDT International Finance Ltd
UKF Fertilisers Ltd

Warbridge Investment Co Ltd
Wates Ltd
Wessex Finance Corporation Ltd
West End Provident and Investment Society Ltd
Westminster House and Land Investment Co Ltd
Whitehall Securities Corporation Ltd
Wilkinson Finance Ltd
Yelverton Finance (London) Ltd
Yorkshire Bank Finance Ltd

The following persons held certificates, valid at 31 March 1978 under section 123 of the Companies Act 1967, to the effect that they had satisfied the Department of Trade that they could properly be treated for the purposes of the Moneylenders Acts 1900 to 1927 as being persons bona fide carrying on the business of banking.

African Continental Bank Ltd
Allied Arab Bank Ltd
Allied Bank International
Amex Bank Ltd
Anglo-Continental Trust Ltd (in liquidation)
Anglo-Eastern Bank Ltd

Banco do Estado de Sao Paulo SA
Bank of Europe Ltd
Bank Fur Gemeinwirtschaft AG
Bank Hapoalim BM
Bank Julius Baer International Ltd
Bank of New Providence Ltd
Bank of New South Wales Savings Bank Ltd
Bank of Tokyo Trust Co, (The)
Banque Francaise de Credit International Ltd
Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd
Barclays Western Bank Ltd
Barnett, Christie Ltd
Beverley Acceptances Ltd
Boston Trust and Savings Ltd
Bowmaker Ltd
Bremar Holdings Ltd
British Linen Bank Ltd
Brook Securities and Co Ltd
Burlington Investments Ltd
Burston Finance Ltd (in liquidation)

Cannon Street Acceptances Ltd (in liquidation)
Capitol Consumer and Commercial Finance Ltd
C. E. Coates and Co Ltd
Cedar Holdings Ltd
Central Trustee Savings Bank Ltd
Chancery Trust Ltd
Chase Manhattan Ltd
Citibank Trust Ltd
Citicorp International Bank Ltd
Cleveland Guaranty Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd
Commercial Bank of Malawi Ltd
Commercial Bank of Wales Ltd
Commercial Credit Services Ltd
Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia
Concorde Trust Ltd
Consolidated Credits and Discounts Ltd
Co-operative Commercial Bank Ltd
Corinthian Securities Ltd
Credit Suisse White Weld Ltd
Credito Italiano SpA
Cripps Wartburg Ltd

David Samuel Trust Ltd (in liquidation)
Dawnay Day and Co Ltd
Drayton Corporation Ltd
Duboff Brothers Ltd
Dunbar and Co Ltd

Eagil Trust Co Ltd
E. S. Schwab and Co Ltd
European Brazilian Bank Ltd

First Chicago Ltd
First International Bancshares Ltd
First London Securities Ltd
First National Bank in Dallas
First National Finance Corporation Ltd
First National Securities Ltd

G. R. Dawes and Co Ltd
G. T. Whyte and Co Ltd (in liquidation)
Goode Durrant Trust Ltd
Gray Dawes and Co Ltd
Gresham Trust Ltd
Greyhound Guaranty Ltd
Grindlays Bank (Scotland) Ltd

Havana International Bank Ltd
Henry Ansbacher and Co Ltd
Heritable and General Investment Bank Ltd
HFC Trust Ltd
Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Ltd
Hume Corporation Ltd

Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd, (The)
Industrial Bank of Scotland Ltd
Investitions-Und Handels-Bank AG
Ionian Securities Ltd
Iran Overseas Investment Bank Ltd
Italian International Bank Ltd

Jacobs Kroll and Co Ltd (in liquidation)
Japan International Bank Ltd
Julian S. Hodge and Co Ltd

Knowsley and Co Ltd

Lloyds Associated Banking Co Ltd
Lloyds and Scottish Trust Ltd
Lombard North Central Ltd
London and County Securities Ltd (in liquidation)
London and European Trust Ltd
London Capital Securities Ltd
London Mercantile Corporation Ltd

Medens Trust Ltd
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd
Mitsubishi Bank Ltd, (The)

N. H. Woolley and Co Ltd
Nordic Bank Ltd
North Carolina National Bank
Northern Commercial Trust Ltd
Northern Trust Co (The)
Norwich General Trust Ltd

P. S. Refson and Co Ltd
People's Bank Ltd (The)
Philipp Brothers and Joseph Ltd

Red Dragon Securities Ltd
Republic National Bank of Dallas
Republic National Bank of New York
Robert Fraser and Partners Ltd
Royal Bank of Canada Trust Corporation Ltd (The)
Royal Trust Company of Canada, (The)
R. Raphael and Sons Ltd

Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd
St Margarets Finance Ltd
Scandic Credit and Commerce Ltd
Schlesinger Ltd
Security Trust Company Ltd
Societe Generale (France) Bank Ltd
Standard Chartered Merchant Bank Ltd
Sterling Credit Ltd
Sterling Industrial Securities Ltd

Trade Development Bank
Trucanda Trusts Ltd
Twentieth Century Banking Corporation Ltd

United Dominions Trust Ltd
United International Bank Ltd

Vavasseur Trust Co Ltd, (The)
Vernons Trust Corporation

Wallace Brothers Bank Ltd
Wells Fargo Ltd
Whiteaway, Laidlaw and Co Ltd
Williams, Glyn and Co
Wintrust Securities Ltd

Zambia National Commercial Bank Ltd

Entries in these lists are in alphabetical order according to the first initial letter of the title.

Protection of Depositors Act 1963

The following companies are recognised by the Secretary of State for Trade as banking or discount companies for the purposes of the Protection of Depositors Act 1963 (as amended) as at 31 March 1978. Companies marked with an asterisk are also recognised as banking or discount companies for the purposes of schedule 8 to the Companies Act 1948 (as amended).

*Alexanders Discount Co Ltd
Algemene Bank Nederland NV
*Allen, Harvey and Ross Ltd
Allied Bank International
Allied Irish Banks Ltd
*American Express International Banking Corporation
Amex Bank Ltd
*Antony Gibbs Holdings Ltd
*A. P. Bank Ltd
*Arbuthnot Latham and Co Ltd
*Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd

Banca Commerciale Italiana SpA
Banca Nazionale del Lavoro SpA
*Banco de Bilbao
*Banco de Santander
Banco de Brasil SA
*Banco Espanol en Londres SA
Banco Urquijo Hispano Americano Ltd
Bank Hapoalim BM
Bank Julius Baer International Ltd
*Bank Leumi (UK) Ltd
Bank Melli Iran
*Bank of Adelaide, (The)
Bank of America International Ltd
*Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association
*Bank of Cyprus (London) Ltd
*Bank of India
Bank of Ireland
*Bank of London and South America Ltd
*Bank of Montreal
*Bank of New South Wales
*Bank of New Zealand
*Bank of Nova Scotia, (The)
Bank of Scotland
Bank of Tokyo and Detroit (International) Ltd
*Bank of Tokyo Ltd, (The)
*Bankers Trust Co
*Banque Belge Ltd
*Banque Belgo-Zairoise SA
*Banque de L'Indochine et de Suez
Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, SA
*Banque de Suez (UK) Ltd
*Banque Nationale de Paris Ltd
*Banque pour le Commerce Continental
Barclays Bank Ltd
*Barclays Bank International Ltd

Barclays Merchant Bank Ltd
*Baring Brothers and Co Ltd
*British Bank of the Middle East, (The)
British Linen Bank Ltd
*Brown Shipley and Co Ltd

*Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
*Cater Ryder and Co Ltd
Central Bank of India
*Charterhouse, Japhet Ltd
*Chase Manhattan Bank NA, (The)
Chemical Bank
Chemical Bank International Ltd
*C. Hoare and Co
*Citibank NA
City National Bank of Detroit
*Clive Discount Co Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Ltd
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd
*Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd, (The)
*Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd (The)
*Commercial Bank of the Near East Ltd, (The)
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia
Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago
Co-operative Bank Ltd
County Bank Ltd
Coutts and Co
Coutts Finance Co
*Credit Industriel et Commercial
*Credit Lyonnais
Credit Suisse White Weld Ltd
Credito Italiano SpA
Crocker National Bank

Dai Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd
Daiwa Bank Ltd, (The)
Detroit Bank and Trust Co, (The)
Dow Banking Corporation

European Banking Co Ltd
European Brazilian Bank Ltd

*First National Bank of Boston
*First National Bank of Chicago, (The)
First Pennsylvania Bank NA
First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee
Forward Trust Ltd
Fuji Bank Ltd, (The)

*Gerrard and National Discount Co Ltd
*Gillett Brothers Discount Co Ltd
Girard Bank
Gray Dawes and Co Ltd
*Grindlay Brandts Ltd
*Grindlays Bank Ltd
*Guiness Mahon and Co Ltd

*Habib Bank Ltd
*Hambros Bank Ltd
Harris Trust and Savings Bank
*Hill, Samuel and Co Ltd
*Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, (The)

International Commercial Bank Ltd
*International Westminster Bank Ltd
Iran Overseas Investment Bank Ltd
Irving Trust Co
Italian International Bank Ltd

Japan International Bank Ltd
*Jessel, Toynbee and Co Ltd
*J. Henry Schroder Wagg and Co Ltd
Johnson Matthey Bankers Ltd
Julian S. Hodge and Co Ltd

*Keyser Ullmann Ltd
*King and Shaxson Ltd
*Kleinwort Benson Ltd

*Lazard Brothers and Co Ltd
*Leopold Joseph and Sons Ltd
*Lewis's Bank Ltd
Lloyds Associated Banking Co Ltd
Lloyds Bank Ltd
*Lloyds Bank International Ltd
*Lloyds Bank International (France) Ltd
Lombard North Central Ltd
London and Continental Bankers Ltd

*Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co
Marine Midland Bank
*Mellon Bank NA
*Mercantile Bank Ltd
Mercantile Credit Co Ltd
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd
Midland Bank Ltd
*Midland and International Banks Ltd
Mitsui Bank Ltd
*Morgan Grenfell and Co Ltd
*Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York
*Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd

*National Bank of Australasia Ltd, (The)
National Bank of Detroit
*National Bank of Greece SA
*National Bank of New Zealand Ltd, (The)
*National Commercial and Glyns Ltd
National Westminster Bank Ltd
*Nedbank Ltd
*N. M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd
Nordic Bank Ltd
Northern Trust Company of Chicago

Orion Bank Ltd
*Ottoman Bank

*Rea Brothers Ltd
Republic National Bank of Dallas
*Royal Bank of Canada, (The)
Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd, (The)

Saitama Bank Ltd, (The)
*Samuel Montagu & Co Ltd
Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd
*Sanwa Bank Ltd, (The)
Scandinavian Bank Ltd
*Seccombe Marshall and Campion Ltd
Security Pacific National Bank
*S. G. Warburg and Co Ltd
*Singer and Friedlander Ltd
*Slater, Walker Ltd
*Smith, St Aubyn and Co Ltd
*Societe Generale pour Favoriser le Developement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France SA
*Standard Chartered Bank Ltd, (The)
Standard Chartered Merchant Bank Ltd
*State Bank of India
Sumitomo Bank Ltd, (The)
*Swiss Bank Corporation

Tokai Bank Ltd, (The)
*Toronto-Dominion Bank, (The)

UBAF Bank Ltd
*Union Bank of Switzerland
*Union Discount Company of London Ltd, (The)
*United Bank Ltd
United Dominions Trust Ltd
United International Bank Ltd

Wells Fargo Ltd
Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale
Williams, Glyn and Co
Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd

*Yorkshire Bank Ltd

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

4 April 1978

992604 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Torsion bar counterbalance arrangement
1005071 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Flexible coupling
1015443 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Tractor implement combination
1027113 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Dynamo-electric machine
1031650 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Macpherson strut-type independent wheel suspension
1068001 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Door latch mechanisms
1069661 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Synthetic resin and anodic coating method
1099649 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Locks
1100472 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Electrocoating
1100473 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Modified epoxy resin and anodic coating method
1106966 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Synthetic resin compositions
1123081 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Motor vehicle automatic change-speed transmission
1156089 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Window assembly
1167206 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Torque converters
1168386 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Improved carburettor for internal combustion engines
1173025 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Hydraulic actuator
1176025 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Valves for internal combustion engines
1181317 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Automatic power transmission mechanism
1249416 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Cable joint sealing
1348882 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
AGC in FDM systems
1423946 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Improvements in or relating to telephone metering costs
1432697 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Optically coupled semiconductive switching devices
1455946 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Improvements in or relating to voice frequency receivers
1460495 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Optical source
1463839 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Travelling wave tubes
1304969 International Standard Electric Corporation
Automatic telecommunication switching system
1339964 International Standard Electric Corporation
Ring trip in telecommunication systems
1470799 International Standard Electric Corporation
Compensation loop for a pulse-width modulation device
1439901 International Standard Electric Corporation
Closed case for endless tapes, particularly ink-ribbon cassette
1323847 ITT Industries Inc
Flipflop circuit
1389009 EMI Ltd
Improvements in or relating to theft alarm systems
1387951 United States Department of Energy
Production of uranium metals
1390301 United States Department of Energy
Glass polymer composites
1402225 United States Department of Energy
Dynamic multisation photometer-fluorometer
1405694 United States Department of Energy
Dynamic multisation photometric analyzer for serological testing
1486409 Agfa-Gevaert
Process for the preparation of high-molecular weight polyesters
1486603 Agfa-Gevaert
Rapid processing at elevated temperature of exposed silver halide elements

5 April 1978

1180127 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Gear tooth form analyzer
1185409 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Safety device
1186641 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Indexing mechanism and process
1196360 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Shell mould and process for shell moulding
1217586 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Latch mechanism
1218893 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Anti-skid brake
1235089 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Friction clutch
1247637 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Door having a lock assembly
1274169 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Transmission gearshift mechanism
1276280 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Multiple ratio power transmission mechanism
1278222 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Brake release valve assembly for anti-lock braking system
1317370 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in transverse-mounted power units of motor vehicles
1343973 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in gearboxes for motor vehicles
1344195 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in planetary-gear-change-speed transmission mechanisms
1351474 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in air vents
1352373 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in automatic regulation of electrochemical machining systems
1366200 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in electromagnetic valves for controlling pressure fluid circuits
1376547 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Extrusion of internally toothed articles
1412222 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
A belt tensioning pulley
1422616 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
An energy absorbing device
1428738 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Windscreen-wiper drive mechanism
1418079 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault
Automatic camshaft lathe
1332235 Daniel Foxwell and Son Ltd
Conveyor trucking arrangement
1471077 Agence Nationale De Valorisation De La Recherche (Anvar)
Torque limiters of the friction type
1494642 John Vernon Buckland
Improvements in or relating to cranes used in the construction of ships and on other building sites

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patent form no. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

I. J. G. Davies, Comptroller

Merger proposal cleared

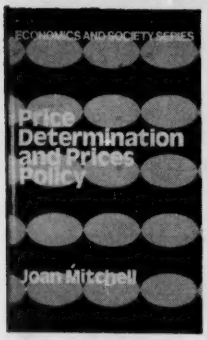
Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed merger to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:
Scapa Group Ltd and Bury and Masco (Holdings) Ltd.

Inspectors of Calomefern and Desadean appointed

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has appointed Mr R. A. Morritt of 7 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2 and Mr P. L. Ainger of Messrs Price Waterhouse and Co, Southwark Towers, 32 London Bridge Street, London SE1, under section 165(b) of the Companies Act 1948 as amended, to investigate and report on the affairs of Calomefern Ltd and Desadean Properties Ltd.

New publications

Getting to the bottom of prices



Practical issues and problems are emphasised in Joan Mitchell's new book 'Price Determination and Prices Policy', which makes extensive use of reports from, among others, the Price Commission and Monopolies and Mergers Commission. It is an additional asset that Dr Mitchell is able to write on this subject with rare authority and experience. The book is designed primarily for students of economics, business studies and accountancy, but it will be a valuable source for all those interested in this subject, and it is written in a way which makes it readily accessible to the non-specialist.

Although Dr Mitchell sets out to discuss prices against the background of prices policies, she does in fact range wider and somewhat deeper than that purpose might suggest. Starting with an outline of the complex forces which go to make up prices in particular cases, she shows that few generalisations can be made in practice about pricing behaviour or principles. She provides a guide to official attitudes towards prices since the turn of the century, and the evolution of present policy, and then deals with price determination in specific areas of the private and public sectors.

Dr Mitchell also looks at the principles and practice of price controls in the UK, which students of the subject should find particularly useful.

The book concludes by delving briefly into wider implications of prices policy – the various manifestations of consumer protection, including food subsidies.

Price Determination and Prices Policy, by Joan Mitchell. Allen & Unwin. 1978. 215 pages; hardback £5.50 (ISBN 0 04 338084 0); paperback £2.95 (ISBN 0 04 338085 9).

Good advice on contracts

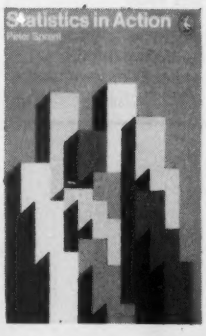
Breach of contract penalties can be heavy and drastic, easily exceeding the value of the contract itself, if proper safeguards are not arranged. This timely warning comes from W. S. Atkins and Partners, a firm of consultants involved in handling engineering contracts. It has decided to publish some guidelines in the light of its own experience on the subject.

Although originally produced for company staff, the work is now available to a wider readership. It sets out the main features of industrial contracts, including definitions of a legal contract, the constituent parts of an engineering contract, types of contracts and types of tender. Procedures are explained briefly but clearly.

This is not a publication for the specialist, since it does not deal with the subject in any depth. And anyone requiring advice on the legal aspects of contracts would be advised to check a more authoritative legal source. But for those not yet familiar with the handling of engineering contracts this publication should provide a useful introduction.

The Elements of Engineering Contracts, by M. O'C. Horgan and F. R. Roulston. W. S. Atkins and Partners, Project Management Services Division, Woodcote Grove, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5BW. 1977. 102 pages; paperback: no price quoted (ISBN 0 950 60380 5).

Statistical thinking – not so far away



Perhaps H. G. Wells' prediction that 'Statistical thinking will one day be as necessary for efficient citizenship as the ability to read and write', has not yet come true. But as we continue to be inundated with the jargon of statistical methodology – 'to do such is so many times safer', 'it has been calculated that . . .' – a clearer understanding of the use of statistical data must be of obvious value in many walks of life. And for the reader who finds himself mystified by such terms as 'regression' and 'probabilities', Peter Sprent has produced an interesting paperback.

'Statistics in Action' is aimed primarily at the general reader who wants to know more about the subject. The author obliges by providing an introduction to the practical application of statistics with examples of case studies taken from everyday life, an explanation of basic statistical terms and methodology in a step-by-step approach and references to the more controversial methods used by some statisticians.

This handy paperback should provide a useful introduction for those who have hesitated to approach the subject in the past. It is written in a most readable format, although the non-mathematician may still find it heavy going at times.

Statistics in Action, by Peter Sprent. (Pelican Original). Penguin Books. 1977. 240 pages; paperback £1.00 (ISBN 0 1402 1955 2).

Smaller business aids

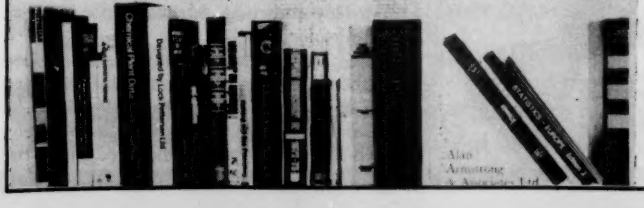
Many in the accountancy profession will already be familiar with the various publications available from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. One particularly useful series is the 'Accountants Digest'. Produced by the technical directorate of the institute and published periodically, it carries articles on a range of topics considered to be of interest to the profession although a much wider audience could find them useful.

Each issue is devoted to a specific subject and is written by someone selected for their expert knowledge in that field. Two recent issues are of particular concern to those involved with the smaller business.

'Controls in a Small Manufacturing Business' (no 55 in the series) examines the various management techniques for the executive in the smaller organisation who wants to keep 'a finger on the pulse'. Aimed at those who have not already had a formal training, the issue looks at four major areas – marketing, production, finance and personnel controls – incorporating some specimen statements and forms. Working examples are taken from a variety of industries.

No 58 in the series attempts to set out guidelines for those responsible for selecting a computer for their organisation. Faced with the vast amount of available equipment and swamped by advice from sales representatives and an enormous amount of advertising literature, selection is not an easy task. It is particularly heartening to find some objective advice on the subject at a time when the smaller company, as well as the larger one, is coming to terms with the need for computerised information systems.

Choosing a Computer for the Smaller Company, by J. A. Oxley. Accountants Digest no 58. Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Publications Department, P.O. Box 433, Chartered Accountants' Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2P 2BJ. 1978. 19 pages; paperback £1.75.
Controls in a Small Manufacturing Business, by R. G. Moore. Accountants Digest no 55. Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. 1977.



The books reviewed above – and many other business books are available immediately from stock at these booksellers.

THE BUSINESS SCHOOL BOOKSHOP
Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SA 01-723 3902

ALAN ARMSTRONG ASSOCS LTD, BOOKSELLERS
12 Castle St, Edinburgh EH2 3AT 031-226 4201

New products

Accessory detects tritium contamination on any surface

Tritium contamination or other radio-activity can be detected on any surface by a contamination meter accessory from Hughes Whitlock Ltd. It is intended for use with a meter launched last year as the first viable means of directly measuring tritium surface contamination. Though it is of comparatively low health risk, its measurement is significant because cross-contamination can drastically affect the outcome of laboratory experiments. Furthermore, the recommended codes of practice do not exclude any radio-isotope.

With the accessory the meter may now be used for on-site measurement of smears and wipes. It comprises a special 'lens cap' incorporating a smear test recess measuring 52 mm diam × 1 mm deep. Its metal construction minimises distortion under vacuum, allowing for the fact that distance variation of 0.025 mm produces a measurable error in tritium activity determination.

This accessory, says the company, cannot give false positive readings caused by chemiluminescence induced by chemicals in or on the smear. A hardened paint finish overcomes the problem of scratches in metal finishing that could represent potentially infinitely thick sources of tritium contamination.

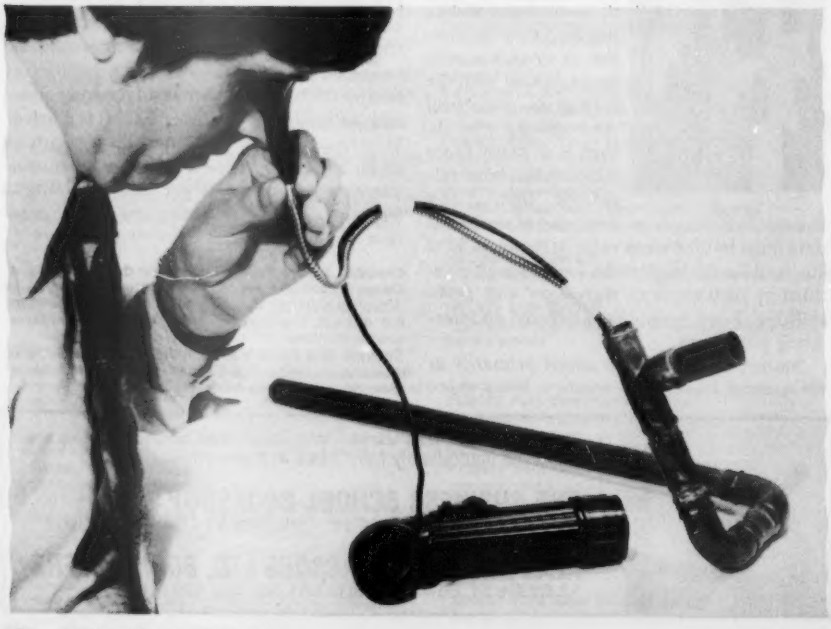
The meter itself uses a plastic scintillator technique to determine the presence of tritium. A compact unit, it has a vacuum pump which evacuates air from the testing zone of the meter and ensures a constant distance relationship with the bench surface.

Further information: circle 544

Low-cost viewer uses fibre optics

A flexible viewer using fibre optics with a six times magnification eyepiece for inspecting inaccessible places is claimed by Edward Fletcher and Partners to cost only one-third of existing similar equipment. The object lens has pre-set focusing from 10 mm (½ in) to infinity. Where ambient light is inadequate, a battery-operated probe and non-coherent fibre light guide supplements the fibrescope by providing cold light at the point of inspection. An optional extra mains driven light source can give bright quartz-iodine light.

Further information: circle 547



Heavy-wear acrylic Axminsters offer luxury

A range of 100 per cent acrylic Axminster carpets, claimed to have the feel of wool pile but at a considerably lower cost, has been introduced by Tomkinsons of Kidderminster. Known as Royal Windsor, the carpet with its pile weight of 1178 g/cm² has been awarded the grade four (heavy domestic and/or general contract) international classification. It is offered in 0.91 m and 3.65 m widths, and in a choice of 10 patterns.

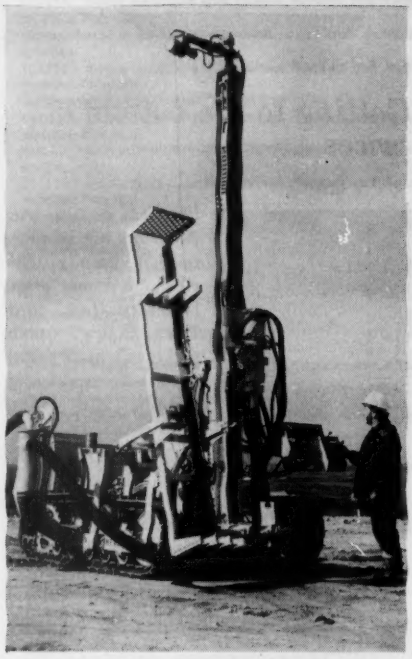
The manufacturer also produces hand-crafted luxury rugs to a customer's design. A technique is employed in which yarn tufts are individually woven into the backing web thus providing for complete freedom of design. The size of rug is at present limited to 2.4 m × 3.05 m but the firm is prepared to discuss larger sizes with individual customers, to whom it also supplies a full design advisory service.

Further information: circle 546

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Holman presents range of drill rigs



A self-propelled unit, completely hydraulic in operation except for the hammer it uses, this Holman HF130 is one of a range of drill rigs designed for quarry and construction sites. The others are powered by a towed air-compressor but all feature common track base, fixed or articulated booms and a range of drifters and down-the-hole hammers.

Further information: circle 545

Alarm system acts to prevent overloading chemical tankers

A pneumatic-level sensing system developed by John Davis and Son (Derby) Ltd is designed to offer a fail-safe means of preventing the overloading of chemical tankers. The two-level alarm system provides facilities for automatic shut-down and meets both the existing and anticipated future requirements of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consulative Organisation.

The system comprises a heavy-duty weatherproofed main control unit equipped with a visual level indicator designed to be mounted on the coaming of cargo tank hatches, and a probe unit mounted within the vessel's tank. When the cargo submerges the

lower end of the probe, an air horn is operated for three seconds and the visual indicator begins to rotate, showing that the tank is nearly full. From this point the cargo flow is controlled manually until loading is complete.

If no action is taken and the product reaches the second alarm level, twin air horns sound continuously, and a pressurised airline holding open the tank input valve is rapidly vented to atmosphere. The valve closes automatically and the flow is stopped before the cargo overflows.

Where individual pneumatic cargo input valves are not incorporated in the flow lines to the tanks, a special automatic close-down unit is available, which will shut off a pneumatically-operated main flow valve servicing all tanks. After closing the individual shut-off cock of the tank indicated to be full, the operator can then continue the loading operation. The equipment operates by comparing the ambient pressure within the cargo tank and the pressure exerted by the cargo on the probe. The two alarms sound when pressure differences reach pre-set values.

Further information: circle 548

Londex announces Ledray . . .

Londex Ltd has announced a new model of its solid state photoelectric relay with a substantially increased range. A single unit now covers the whole field from 3 cm to 3 m.

Ledray is a completely self-contained photoelectric system, including a retro-reflector, which detects moving objects without physical contact. It has a solid-state light source and a robust metal enclosure which makes it suitable for all types of industrial applications, including those where vibration is a problem. Installation is simple and alignment is made easy with a light emitting diode alignment indicator.

. . . and new electronic timing relays

A whole range of Londex electronic timing relays covering most timing applications has been designed with emphasis on accuracy, reliability and ease of installation.

A feature of the new 'N' range is that each relay is mounted in a DIN standard 45 × 70 × 110 mm enclosure and clips directly onto DIN 35 mm 'top hat' rail. An alternative fixing is by 2 × 4 mm screws. Other features include clearly numbered terminals, all at the front of the unit, for ease of wiring; and test sockets for wiring check and trouble shooting.

Type ERN is a delay on energisation type. A special feature is a 10:1 time range multiplier which enables the full range of 50 ms to 5 min to be covered by just two units. Repeat accuracy is better than 0.5 per cent due to advanced technology based on digital techniques. Error due to temperature over the range from −25 to +65°C is less than 0.05 per cent per °C. Two light emitting diodes show whether the unit is in the 'timing' or 'timed out' condition. The comprehensive range includes delay on energisation with a delay of up to 30 hours, delay on de-energisation, impulse and flashing units.

Further information: circle 549

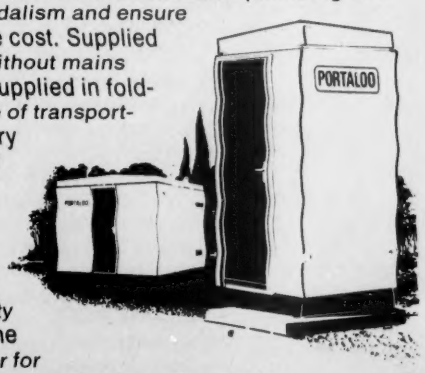
Air helmet for industry

To Martindale's range of industrial respiratory equipment has been added a triple-protection safety helmet, providing lung, eye, and head protection in one unit. Manufactured from white polyester resin-impregnated glass fibre, the helmet is claimed to withstand the normal rugged use experienced in industry. Design of the helmet evenly distributes the weight, 1.65 kg, making it comfortable to wear for long periods. A dc motor-driven fan housed within the helmet provides a continuous flow of filtered air over the wearer's face. Power for the helmet is supplied via an in-line connector from a rechargeable 6 V nickel-cadmium battery, belt-mounted on the operator's waist. The battery when fully charged is rated to operate continuously for nine hours, supplying filtered air to the operator at a minimum rate of 120 litres/minute.

Further information: circle 550

Sanitation...
PORTALOO toilet units

PORTALOO toilet units – completely flexible in size, layout and range of fittings to meet virtually any sanitary requirement. Steel construction and concealed plumbing and wiring resist vandalism and ensure low maintenance cost. Supplied for use with or without mains drainage. Also supplied in fold-flat form for ease of transportation with sanitary fittings as crated sub assemblies with pick-up connections. PORTALOO toilet units meet all local authority requirements. The complete answer for public conveniences, schools, parks, picnic sites, camp and caravan sites, gypsy encampments, and all construction and industrial sites. BUY OR HIRE.



Security...
PORTASTOR security units

PORTASTOR security units provide tough, high security storage or work space. Eight standard sizes with floor areas from 1.35m² to 25.00m². Units can be linked or stacked two high. Every unit fitted with high security doors, hinges and lock. Made from galvanised steel. Can be lifted and transported with contents. Can be fitted with racking, shelving, alarms, etc. Also supplied in fold-flat form for ease of transportation. Used at factories, depots, schools, farms, recreational areas, construction sites, shipyards, docks, garages, etc. A PORTASTOR tool vault is also available. Virtually impregnable, it is the most burglar proof tool chest on the market offering 1.6m³ of easily accessible storage space for valuable tools and equipment. BUY OR HIRE.

PORTALOO and PORTASTOR are registered trade marks

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Technology news

Working party to examine pallet exchange scheme

A working party to consider the usage and wastage of pallets in the grocery and allied trades has been formed by the Department of Industry. Established at the recommendation of the conference held on 22 November 1977 to discuss the report on materials handling pallet usage and wastage, its initial programme will be to examine a one-for-one voluntary exchange scheme based on the 1200 mm by 1000 mm four-way entry timber pallet. These represent almost one half of all timber pallets in circulation. A six-month pilot scheme is expected to start next September.

The working party in the first instance comprises former members of the steering group responsible for the pallet survey and representatives of leading companies in the grocery and allied trades including Associated Biscuits Ltd, Brooke Bond Oxo Ltd, General Foods Ltd, The Nestle Co Ltd, Reckitt and Colman, RHM Foods Ltd, SPD Ltd, Spiller Foods Ltd and Unigate Foods Ltd.

A wider participation in the working party of others concerned with pallets is intended once the broad principles of the scheme have been developed.

The Queen's Award for Technological Achievement, 1978

The following companies have received the Queen's award for a significant advance, leading to increased efficiency, in the application of technology to a production or development process in British industry or the production for sale of goods which incorporate new and advanced technological qualitites.

The Acoustical Manufacturing Company Ltd
The Nondestructive Testing Centre, Atomic Energy Research Establishment
BOC Subocean Services Ltd
Brookdeal Electronic Ltd
CJB Offshore Ltd
Dowty Mining Equipment Ltd
East Malling Research Station
The Powder Forging Division of GKN Forgings Ltd
The Mond Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd
The Pharmaceutical Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd
The Plant Protection Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd
The Research and Development Department of the Pilkington Group
The Research and Development Unit of Quantel Ltd
Racal-Dana Instruments Ltd
The Advanced Projects Department, Test Operations, of Rolls Royce Ltd
The Research Institute, Smith Kline and French Laboratories Ltd
Department of Hop Research, Wye College

X-ray units give high definition

Focus of the magnified image on the monitor screen of a 6BA bolt enlarged about × 20 is adjusted by an operator. With the Wardray E12 high-definition x-ray unit, images are directly enlarged using a projection technique. The tv image shows the high degree of resolution that can be achieved with the new system.

United Kingdom signs international agreement on wave energy project

The United Kingdom will take part in a new international programme of research and development to advance knowledge of ways of generating electricity from the energy of sea waves, it was announced by Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, on 13 April.

An agreement was signed in Tokyo that day between four member countries of the International Energy Agency, to undertake a collaborative programme of research and development on one aspect of wave power. Referring to this programme, Mr Eadie said that the UK, the United States and Canada would collaborate with Japan in the testing of air-driven turbines and generators on board an 80 m long buoy, specially constructed for the Japan Marine Science and Technology Centre. The tests, which would be carried out in the Sea of Japan during the coming two winters, would cost approximately £1.5 million. The UK contribution was expected to be about £300,000, part of this being spent in British industry.

Mr Eadie said, 'The information and experience from the sea trial will be of consid-

erable value to our independent national programme on wave power which I announced in April 1976 and to which the Department of Energy has so far committed £2.5 million.'

Cranfield studies windmills as alternative energy source for developing countries

Cranfield Institute of Technology is to analyse the power requirements of developing countries and investigate factors which would make the use of windmills – also known as wind turbines – a viable proposition. A feasibility study worth about £10,500 and financed by the Ministry of Overseas Development will examine the application of wind power as an alternative source of power for agricultural needs.

Attempts will be made to estimate the performance characteristics of windmills subjected to different wind speeds. Current designs and the availability of commercially manufactured windmills will also be considered. Special attention will be paid to wind speeds in the Bahamas, India, Zambia, the Sudan, Upper Volta, Yemen and Korea. Windmills could also prove their worth in isolated communities such as Tristan da Cunha where the administration has already shown interest in this form of power.

The institute will be looking for comparatively unsophisticated designs including small vertical axis windmills which do not need wind-direction-seeking heads. A main objective of the study is to identify designs with few working parts, needing little maintenance and be practically foolproof. In addition to their application to grinding corn, drying grain and pumping water for irrigation purposes, windmills which could provide power supplies for small workshops will also be considered.

As well as aiming to develop new ideas about alternative forms of energy, the study is expected to up-date knowledge on windmills to provide an information bank upon which the developing countries can draw.

The institute will also collaborate with the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Silsoe. Work will be under the technical direction of R. E. Peacock of the Cranfield institute. The project is expected to start this month.

DoI project supports development of Datapad

Datapad, a computer system that captures and validates handwritten alpha-numeric data at the time that it is written, has been developed by Quest Automation Ltd of Wimborne with the support of the Department of Industry's advanced computer technology project (ACTP).

The unique element of the system is the Datapad itself which enables data to be captured and displayed as it is written, using an ordinary pen or pencil, on single or multi-part A5 forms. Datapad's controller interprets the pen movements, recognises the data and passes it for validity checking, showing any errors or failures. Data is then immediately available for further processing by computer. Datapad embodies the commercial development by Quest Automation of the National Physical Laboratory invention Chit.

A good example of the application of the Datapad system is processing suppliers' invoices. Datapad places the responsibility for data capture with the skilled clerical staff; as they write this information down, it performs a number of checks – is the invoice date valid, is the account number correct, does the sum of the allocations equal the invoice total? It involves no extra work and the clerk is informed of errors while the invoice is to hand and corrections can be effected by merely overwriting the wrong characters.

The aim of ACTP is to stimulate by means of 50 per cent cost-sharing contracts advanced research and development relevant to the computer industry, and to co-ordinate work in government and industrial laboratories. Currently there are over twenty contracts with firms and several joint university-industrial projects at a total ACTP funding of over £1.1 million. Total ACTP support to-date on 176 completed contracts exceeds £5.7 million.

Proposals from firms wishing to carry out advanced research and development in the field of computer technology (hardware or software) are considered on the basis that they wish to do the work, are prepared to pay half the cost, co-operate with other participating firms and pay a levy to the Department of Industry on the sale of a successful end product. Usual procedure is for a firm to submit an intial outline of the specific contract proposal for which support is requested. Further information can be obtained from the Department of Industry, CSE2, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6200.

Marconi to develop ship handling trainer

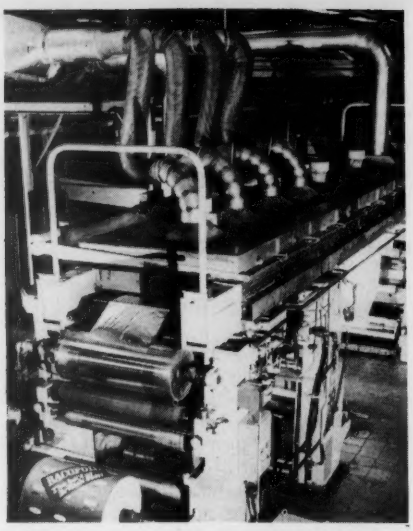
A radically new training aid using life-like television pictures to simulate the actual visual conditions obtaining in a variety of human tasks ranging from ship handling to gun aiming is to be incorporated in a new type of ship-handling trainer. Under the terms of a contract with the Department of Industry's Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board, and jointly funded by both the department and Marconi Radar Systems, the company's computer generated imagery system, Tepigen, will form the main component of this new simulator to be developed at the company's establishment in Leicester.

Pictures are synthesised wholly from a computer without the use of television cameras, models, video tape or film. Scenery produced in this way can be manipulated freely and quickly to give a view which changes as the observer alters his direction of heading. The size, location, orientation, visibility and colour of objects in the pictures, are controlled by the computer in response to the scene details set up for that particular exercise, and fully react to the operator's response to the displayed scene. Moving objects such as ships, aircraft and vehicles are free to move anywhere in the 'playing' areas under the control of an instructor and the scene details can be changed readily.

The new trainer has been developed by Marconi Radar for ship handling applications requiring realistic scenery and correct simulation of 'all weather' operation by day or night. Tepigen is used in conjunction with a simulator of the ship's bridge and instruments, by computer-to-computer link, and this provides a complete training system for all types of ship handling. It includes the training of deck officers, initial training in pilotage, exercises in handling dangerous situations, studying the handling of unfamiliar ships, familiarisation with special effects such as shallow water or passing at close quarters, research for ship design and planning of ports and channels.

The system includes a number of general features using visual applications to cover 'all weather' operations by day and night.

Energy saved in waste heat



Important energy savings are being made by the recovery and use of waste heat in manufacturing processes. Cross-fertilisation of ideas in energy-saving must be encouraged and there should be no industrial boundaries to technology, Dr John Cunningham, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, said on 11 April at the launch of an Electricity Council mobile exhibition on heat recovery.

A 32 per cent energy saving was achieved at this Bacofoil plant in East London. A heat-pipe thermal recovery unit, installed on an electric tunnel oven which dries coated aluminium foil, has repaid its capital cost in under six months. This system is particularly effective in recovering heat from 'dirty' exhausts.

The recovery of waste heat could save the equivalent of up to 6 million tons of coal a year, said Dr Cunningham. It was particularly attractive because – since it could often be implemented by adapting existing plant – it offered the prospect of immediate energy-savings now and was applicable to a wide range of industries.

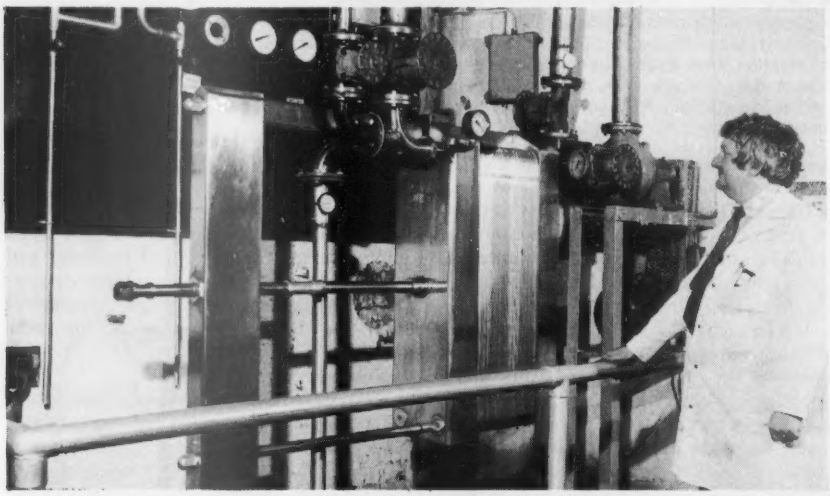
The Electricity Council's mobile exhibition could be used throughout the country to demonstrate to energy managers the principles of heat recovery in industrial processes and the possibilities for systems they might not have considered.

It would show that heat pipes were not exotic pieces of hardware having limited practical applications, he said; that heat exchangers might have far wider potential usage than the milk and petrochemical industries and that we were only on the threshold of development of industrial heat pump technology.

Explaining the purpose of the exhibition, Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the Electricity Council, said that heat recovery was not new, but until now had been used as an aid to production in relatively few industries. 'Our objective must now be to spread this experience, and the technology which supports it, across a wider range of industries,' he said.

The exhibition presented the principles of five important heat-recovery techniques and illustrated their applications in five major industries, said Sir Francis. Being modular in form, it could be easily sited and the intention was that it would remain at each venue for several weeks.

Several requests had been made jointly by the Department of Energy regional representatives and the electricity boards concerned from the Midlands, Yorkshire and Wales. It had also been earmarked for the energy managers' conference at the National Exhibition Centre in October.



Sun-Ray Dyeing Co Ltd has been profitably recovering heat from its dye effluent since 1953. An APV Paraflow heat exchanger located between the clean-water reception and holding tanks extracts heat from the hot liquor effluent. The energy transferred is sufficient to supply nearly 50 per cent of the energy needed to heat the incoming water to the process temperature.

This Churchill heat-pump chiller supplies cooling water for the injection moulding machines of Revell (Great Britain) Ltd. Some warm-air space heating is provided.

These two Westair dehumidifying heat pumps have enabled Portacel Ltd of Tonbridge, exporters of ceramic filters for water purification, to make more effective use of factory space, manpower, materials and energy. Drying the ceramic elements, before kilning and after testing, by this method has saved over 50 per cent of the energy cost of the previous gas- and oil-fired plant.

Parliament

Monday, 10 April

British Steel Corporation
Ian Gow (Eastbourne) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was his latest estimate of the prospective loss of the British Steel Corporation for the current financial year.

Mr Kaufman replied that on 16 January the secretary of state exceptionally announced an estimated loss for 1977-78 of £520 million, including a £50 million allowance for contingencies which had fortunately proved not to be required. Present indications were that the outturn for the year will be a loss of around £440 million but he would prefer to await the audited results before giving the house a firm figure.

British Aerospace plans
Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what communications he had recently received from the British Aerospace Corporation concerning its plans for a new generation of civil aircraft.

Mr Huckfield said that British Aerospace had recently asked the secretary of state to agree that the HS 146 feederliner should go ahead. Apart from that, the corporation was frequently in touch with him about civil aircraft options.

Liquid-hydrogen aircraft
Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked if discussions were taking place with the French authorities on the concept of a liquid-hydrogen fuelled aircraft as a successor to Concorde; if any research was taking place into such a project; and if discussions on the matter with Lockheed were contemplated.

Mr Huckfield replied that the government and British Aerospace were agreed that the knowledge and experience gained on Concorde should be consolidated, but that the first task must be to establish priorities in the subsonic field. No government support was at present being given to any programme of research into the type of project referred to.

Counter-purchase arrangements
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what had been the involvement in and what was the policy of his department towards the counter-purchase arrangements between British Aerospace and Finland following the agreement to sell Hawker Siddeley Hawk aircraft to Finland.

Mr Huckfield answered that as a condition of obtaining certain large and important export orders such as that for the Hawk, it was necessary for British suppliers to agree to some measure of counter-purchase. It was of course primarily the responsibility of the exporters concerned to dispose, either in the UK or in third markets, of the goods or services which may be offered as offset, but the government had made it clear that it would give such assistance as it can to facilitate these arrangements where appropriate.

British Leyland
Ronald Atkins (Preston, North) asked what was the total government assistance that had been paid to the commercial vehicle manufacturing division of British Leyland.

Mr Huckfield replied that the public funding of British Leyland had not been allocated by the government or the NEB to particular operating groups in the way suggested by the questioner. It was intended to meet a proportion of the company's overall funding requirements. The secretary of state was of course required to approve particular investment projects costs over £25 million and had already approved two relating to commercial vehicle manufacture; the new assembly hall and the new engineering centre, both at Leyland.

Motor industry imports
Tom Litterick (Birmingham, Selly Oak) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would use his planning agreement powers under the Industry Act 1975 to rectify the fact that Ford Motor Co (UK) Ltd, Vauxhall Ltd, and Chrysler (UK) Ltd, were net importers to the United Kingdom of motor vehicles and components.

Mr Cryer said that there were no planning agreement or other powers in the Industry Act 1975 to empower the type of action required by the questioner. With regard to the companies named in the question all were in fact net exporters from the UK of motor vehicles and components, their total contribution in 1977 being in excess of £520 million.

Meeting of EEC industry ministers
Hugh Dykes (Harrow East) asked when the Secretary of State for Industry next intended to meet his opposite number in the EEC council of industry ministers.

Mr Huckfield said that there were no current proposals for the ministers of industry of the member states to assemble in council. When industrial matters arose which required collective ministerial consideration they could be treated by the council of ministers (foreign affairs) with the participation of other interested ministers.

European regional development fund
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he intended to have further discussions with the European commission on the future of the European regional development fund.

Mr Williams replied that discussions were still continuing at official level in order to resolve outstanding questions concerning the allocation and administration of the fund for the period 1978 to 1980

Support for shipbuilding
Tom Arnold (Hazel Grove) asked about a further statement on the government's proposals for support for the British shipbuilding industry.

Mr Huckfield said that proposals for an extension of the shipbuilding intervention fund were currently under consideration and the secretary of state expected to make a statement as soon as the necessary consultations had been completed.

Industrial Strategy
Norman Lamont (Kingston upon Thames) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he was satisfied with the progress of the government's Industrial Strategy.

Mr Varley said that he was satisfied and that the government now wished to see the valuable work which sector working parties were doing translated this year into effective action at company level.

Return on capital employed
Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he was satisfied with the rate of return on capital employed in manufacturing industry.

Mr Williams replied that he was not satisfied. In the department's view industry should become more profitable and the government's economic and industrial policies were designed to encourage this.

Investment in manufacturing industry
David Knox (Leek) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the level of investment in manufacturing industry during the most recent 12-month period for which figures were available. Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked whether he would now take additional steps to increase investment in industry. William Molloy (Ealing North) asked how much government money had been committed from 1974 to the present date under industry schemes; and how much investment it had generated.

Mr Cryer replied that total investment by manufacturing industry in 1977 was estimated to have been £1,761 million at 1970 prices. It represented an increase of 8 per cent over 1976. This was a welcome increase but the government intended to maintain its active support for industrial investment, in particular its wide range of selective assistance. By the beginning of March this year, a total of £247 million of assistance had been offered by his department since 1 April 1974 through industry schemes operated under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972. The total industrial investment associated with this assistance amounted to £1,528 million. Since 1 April 1974 to 31 October 1977, £276 million had been offered under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 to assist 2894 projects with a total project cost of £2,865 million.

NEB practices
Nigel Spearing (Newham South) asked what facilities, practices, operational methods or activities, currently practised by the National Enterprise Board, differed from those offered by private commercial organisations.

Mr Huckfield answered that it was open to the board to offer such facilities, adopt such practices or operational methods or undertake such activities as it thought fit, subject to the requirements of the Industry Act 1975, directions given under that act by The Secretary of State and such other obligations, constraints or commitments as it may accept or incur.

Government grants to firms
John Evans (Newton) asked what would be the maximum amount of government grant, under all headings, available to a firm moving into a freehold greenfield site with a £1 million development which would employ 100 persons: (a) in a special development area, (b) in a development area and (c) in an assisted area.

Mr Cryer said that it was not possible to give a simple figure for each of the cases specified. Much would depend on the nature of the investment ie how much of £1 million represents expenditure on buildings, how much on plant and equipment and how much on working capital. In the assisted areas the appropriate rates of regional development grant described in section 1 of the Industry Act 1972 would apply if the investment was made in respect of a qualifying activity. Regional selective assistance was discretionary and the amounts given would vary with the nature and locality of the project. Other assistance, including for instance a removal grant, or a rent free period in a government factory, might also be available depending on the circumstances of the case.

Subsidies for private companies
Hugh Jenkins (Wandsworth, Putney) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to what extent he had subsidised private companies with public money since 1974 to date.

Mr Cryer answered that, including an estimated expenditure of £397 million for 1977-78, the total of subsidies, current grants and capital grants paid to undertakings in those parts of the private sector for which his department was responsible, were forecast to total £1,849 million, at 1977 survey prices, for the years 1974-75 to 1977-78 inclusive.

Grants to assist worker co-operatives
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would set out those bodies receiving grants of public money to assist in and promote the development of worker co-operatives or common ownership enterprises with the amount of the grant in each case.

Mr Cryer said that the Industrial Common Own-

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

ership Act 1976 empowered the secretary of state to make grants and loans to relevant bodies whose purpose was to encourage the development of common ownership and co-operative enterprises. A total of £30,000 per annum was available for five years to help them provide advice about organising such enterprises. Those organisations which had been recognised by the secretary of state, together with the amount of grant they had received to date, were:

	£
Industrial Common Ownership Movement	25 000
Scottish Co-operatives Development Agency	6 000
Co-operative Union	2 000
Co-operative Productive Federation	Nil [1]

[1] Application for grant currently under consideration.

A further £250,000 was available under the act over five years to help relevant bodies to make small loans to co-operative and common ownership enterprises. This loan fund was being administered by Industrial Common Ownership Finance Ltd (Icof), which already operated a small revolving loan fund to help new or existing co-operatives when the act was passed. Icof had so far received a total of £30,000, of which £21,000 had been on-loaned to co-operative enterprises. The remainder had been used to help Icof meet the additional expenses arising from its administration of the loan fund.

Inner cities

Fred Silvester (Manchester, Withington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what measures he was proposing to the seven partnership committees as his department's contribution to the rejuvenation of the inner cities.

Mr Cryer answered that his department was participating fully in the partnerships' initial task of drawing up programmes for action which would include proposals designed to strengthen the economies of the inner cities. It was too early to say what agreed proposals would be put forward by the different partnerships. The partnership authorities would benefit from the measures announced in the white paper on inner city policy and from the powers which would be available to them under the Inner Urban Areas Bill.

West Midlands

Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he was satisfied with the level of investment in the private sector of the manufacturing industry in the west Midlands.

Mr Cryer replied that the recent trend in investment in manufacturing industry in the west Midlands appeared to be upwards. The government had introduced a number of national measures designed to increase investment in manufacturing industry from which the west Midlands was benefiting.

North Humberside

James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he was satisfied with the level of investment in the private sector of the manufacturing industry in north Humberside; and how this compared with the level of five years ago.

Mr Cryer replied that industrialists investing in north Humberside had been able to qualify since last April for development area incentives. In addition north Humberside benefited from the national measures which the government had taken to increase investment in manufacturing industry. Separate figures for industrial investment in north Humberside were not available but the recent trend in investment in manufacturing industry in the Yorkshire and Humberside region appeared to be upwards.

South Yorkshire

Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he had received representations about the need for increased support being provided to stimulate economic development in south Yorkshire.

Mr Cryer said that he had received representations. South Yorkshire already benefited from substantial government assistance for industrial development and was currently suffering the effects of the world recession, an improvement in national economic activity would be of the greatest importance to economic development in south Yorkshire.

Greater London Council bill

A. J. Beith (Berwick upon Tweed) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what assessment he had made of the implications for government policy towards development areas such as the north of England of the powers to assist industrial development which are sought by certain London boroughs under the Greater London Council (General Powers) Bill.

Mr Cryer said that the government was still currently considering the implications of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Bill as it now stood before parliament following the petition by some London boroughs. The powers in it to assist industry went beyond those recommended in the secretary of state's report on the bill and in the report by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Wigan area

Alan Fitch (Wigan) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would review his decision not to grant full development status for the Wigan area in view of the persistent high rate of unemployment existing there.

Mr Cryer said that the composition of the assisted areas was under continuing review. No change was planned in the status of the Wigan area.

ECGD cover

Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) asked for the totals of investment insurance cover provided by Export Credits Guarantee Department for each year from 1970 to the latest available full year; how much in each case went to insure investments in developing countries with per capita incomes below and above the international poverty line respectively; and how much went to insure investment in agriculture and rural development.

Mr Meacher said that he was not sure precisely what the questioner had in mind by 'international poverty line'. Taking as reference point a per capita gnp of $280 in 1976, the figures were as follows:

Financial year	Total amount of investments insured during year £m	Amount of investments insured in developing countries with a per capita gnp of: more than $280 pa £m	less than $280 pa £m	Amount of insured investments in agriculture and rural industries £m.
1972-73	0.8	0.8	–	–
1973-74	5.8	4.7	1.1	1.6
1974-75	19.4	18.6	0.8	0.4
1975-76	8.5	4.4	4.1	0.3
1976-77	17.1	10.0	5.4	0.6
1977-78	12.2	11.1	0.8	0.6

Private investment overseas

Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would give the totals of net United Kingdom private investment overseas for each year from 1970 to the latest available full year; how much in each case went to developing countries with per capita incomes below and above the international poverty line, respectively; and how much went into agriculture and rural development. He also asked for each year since 1970: (a) the value of net outward United Kingdom investment in developing countries and (b) the value of remitted profits and payments from developing countries.

Mr Meacher answered that the information available related to net direct investment overseas by the United Kingdom, excluding oil, and was as follows:

NET UK DIRECT INVESTMENT OVERSEAS (excluding oil) £ million

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Total to:						
World	546	676	737	1 621	1 575	1 094
Developing countries [1]	132	82	86	248	245	324
of which main developing countries with gnp per capita of more than $280 in 1976 [4] [5]	122	55	59	187	161	266
In agriculture, forestry and fishing in:						
World	5	5	17	9	20	–7
Developing countries [1]	4	5	11	15	11	–2

NET EARNINGS [2] FROM UK DIRECT INVESTMENT OVERSEAS (excluding oil) IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES £ million

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Overseas branches	71	64	70	101	146	131
Overseas subsidiaries and associates	162	156	184	286	319	385
Total net earnings	233	220	254	387	465	516
of which dividends and interest remitted by overseas subsidiaries and associates [3]	66	78	78	114	138	137

[1] As defined by OECD (includes Portugal). [2] Net of overseas tax and depreciation. [3] Figures of remittances of earnings by overseas branches are not available. [4] gnp per capita of $280 or less in 1976 is used by the International Development Agency to determine those countries qualifying for the most concessional terms for financial assistance. [5] Covers Portugal, western Europe other than EEC and Efta, Ghana, Libyan Arab Republic, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Seychelles, Sudan, Zambia, Middle East, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Argentina, Bahamas, Bermuda, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Fiji. Separate figures are not readily available for other developing countries with gnp per capita of more than $280 in 1976.

Overseas investments

Joan Maynard (Sheffield, Brightside) asked for a list of those countries in which Great Britain holds major investments, and the total value of such investments in each case.

Mr Meacher replied that the information available related to the book value of net direct investment overseas by the United Kingdom, excluding oil, insurance and banking, and the latest figures for individual countries relating to the position at the end of 1974 were published in table 1 of *Business Monitor, M4, 1974 supplement, Census of overseas assets 1974.*

Discrimination against Scotch

Ian Campbell (West Dunbartonshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the fiscal discrimination against Scotch whisky and other grain spirits in the member countries of the EEC; and would he further state if the EEC commission was initiating proceedings against these member states for this discrimination.

Mr Meacher replied that there was fiscal discrimination against Scotch whisky and other grain spirits in France, Denmark and Italy. In France, whisky, gin and vodka were subjected to a higher rate of consumption tax than brandy or rum and additionally pay a manufacturing tax; in Denmark, excise tax on spirits discriminated in favour of Acquavit and Schnapps; and in Italy, taxation on spirits, the cost of state seals for bottled spirits and liqueurs, and VAT were all higher on cereal and cane-based spirits than on grape and fruit-based spirits. The commission had taken infraction proceedings against all three countries and reasoned opinions confirming breaches of the EEC treaty had been or were about to be issued. It would be for the commission to decide whether and when to initiate proceedings in the European court if these countries did not remove the discrimination.

Restrictions on Scotch advertising

Ian Campbell (West Dunbartonshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would initiate action against France in the EEC Court of Justice on the subject of the restrictions placed on the advertising of Scotch whisky and other grain spirits as being a discriminating practice contrary to the provisions of the treaty of Rome.

Mr Meacher said that the commission in a reasoned opinion on 26 January 1978 stated that the discriminatory aspects of these restrictions were contrary to the treaty of Rome. It would be for the commission to initiate action in the courts if France did not comply.

Charter flight bookings

Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked what discussions had recently taken place between the British and United States authorities on changes in the advance booking conditions of charter flights; and if it was the policy of the United Kingdom to dispense with the advance booking requirement altogether.

Mr Clinton Davis said that as he said in answer to the hon member for Tynemouth on 20 March, delegations representing the United Kingdom and United States aeronautical authorities met in

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Washington between 6 and 17 March to settle, *inter alia*, the draft of a bilateral charter agreement as provided in annex 4 of Bermuda 2, signed on 23 July 1977. The advance booking period for charter flights had in general been reduced to 21 days. It was certainly not the government's policy to do away with that advance booking requirement.

Retail price index

Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked what had been the cumulative increase in the retail price index since the establishment of the Price Commission.

Mr Maclennan replied that since the establishment of the Price Commission on 2 April 1973, the retail-price index had increased by 106.9 per cent. Of course the cumulative increase contained sharp fluctuations in the rate of increase. Over the first 12 months to April 1974, the RPI rose by 15.2 per cent; in the latest 12 months, to February 1978, the index increased by 9.5 per cent.

Allowable price increases

Hugh Dykes (Harrow East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what plans he had to reduce the scope of the safety-net provisions for allowable price increases by companies under the Price Commission acts.

Mr Maclennan said that the secretary of state intended to review statutory instruments made under the Counter-Inflation Act 1973 and the Price Commission Act 1977 before the end of July when the power to enforce a price code lapses.

Drug prices

Tom Litterick (Birmingham, Selly Oak) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would seek powers to control the prices of drugs charged by drug manufacturers to the retail pharmacy trade.

Mr Maclennan replied that he believed that there were already adequate powers of control. Drugs supplied for human consumption were either subject to the pharmaceutical price regulation scheme maintained by the Secretary of State for Social Services or to the scrutiny of the Price Commission. The commission was currently examining the prices, costs and margins of proprietary medicines.

Injuries from fireworks

Andrew Faulds (Warley East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he could now indicate what steps he intended to take to prevent the rise in injuries from fireworks caused by incidents in the streets as shown in the published figures of such injuries in 1977.

Mr Fraser answered that the consultations foreshadowed in his reply to Tom Torney, (Bradford South) on 8 March (see *Trade and Industry*, 17 March) had not yet been completed. In addition to whatever steps were decided upon in the light of those discussions, the department would emphasise in this year's firework safety campaign the illegality and potential danger of letting off fireworks in the street and the penalties to which offenders were liable on conviction.

Benefit advice shops

Andrew Faulds (Warley East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether he would make it his policy that a proportion of unclaimed benefits should be expended on the establishment of a chain of neighbourhood benefit advice shops to help potential claimants who were unclear about their entitlements and how to make claims.

Mr Fraser replied that he would not do so. He believed that the government should fund advice services on their own merits.

Tuesday, 11 April

Spillers' withdrawal from breadmaking

Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what effect he estimated the withdrawal of Spillers from breadmaking will have on bread prices; to what extent government price control may have contributed to unprofitability in the baking industry; and what action he proposes to take in relation to the monopoly implications of the new situation.

Mr Hattersley replied that Rank Hovis McDougall and Associated British Foods had stated that they did not expect to prenotify a further price increase before late 1978, and he did not expect Spillers' withdrawal from breadmaking to have an immediate effect on prices. The industry had been affected by overcapacity and falling demand and these, rather than price controls, had led to unprofitable trading. He hoped that the greater utilisation of plant that would now be possible would hold down costs and prices. He also hoped that strong competition would continue within the industry, so that it was not necessary to exercise the powers available to make a monopoly reference. The Director General of Fair Trading would continue to keep competition in the industry under review.

Concentration in industry

Robert Edwards (Wolverhampton South East) asked whether the government proposed to introduce legislation to seek to control the extent of concentration in a number of industries.

Mr Fraser replied that the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection announced on 28 November last year that the department had set up an interdepartmental group to consider possible changes in mergers and monopolies legislation in the light, amongst other things, of concentration in British industry. The department was currently considering the group's report on their initial study.

Company takeovers

Robert Edwards (Wolverhampton South East) asked whether the government proposed to introduce legislation to seek to enable a company takeover to take place only with the agreement of the workers or their representatives.

Mr Fraser answered that the department had no proposals to alter the position under the existing mergers control legislation whereby the secretary of state may prohibit a takeover only where the Monopolies and Mergers Commission had found that it may be expected to operate against the public interest in general. However, representations by workers were taken into account by the secretary of state when deciding whether to make a merger reference and the commission considered all matters relevant to its investigations.

ECGD cover

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked on how many occasions, and up to what total value in pounds sterling, the Export Credits Guarantee Department had guaranteed exports of goods manufactured in, and sold to, companies in foreign countries.

Mr Meacher said that there was a variety of circumstances in which ECGD guarantees were given for exports of foreign manufactures. For example, cover was available without restriction for re-exports of foreign manufactures incorporated in United Kingdom products sold on short-term credit. Cover may also be given for sales on short credit by United Kingdom merchants of foreign manufactures shipped from foreign countries to companies in other foreign countries. For sales on extended credit, guarantees may be given, usually under reciprocal arrangements with other countries, for foreign sub-contracts forming part of a United Kingdom main contract. It would be impossible to say how many times and for what amounts such cover had been given.

Gwynedd

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked what had been the annual sums paid by the government by way of selective assistance under the 1972 Industry Act towards industrial development in the county of Gwynedd.

Mr Cryer said that in the period from August 1972 to 31 January 1978, offers of regional selective assistance totalling £1,000,000 were made under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 in respect of 37 projects in the county of Gwynedd. Payments had been made against these offers as follows:

	£'000
1972-73	—
1973-74	33
1974-75	33
1975-76	259
1976-77	79
1977-78 [1]	87

[1] To 31 January 1978.

In the same period, one offer of selective financial assistance totalling £13,000 was made under section 8 of the act. No payments had been made as yet against this offer. These payments were additional to regional development grant for which the projects may qualify under part 1 of the act.

Guarantees for PanAm purchase

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked if the Treasury had undertaken to guarantee any losses arising out of the PanAm airline's purchase of Lockheed aircraft.

Mr Meacher said that guarantees in connection with exports were given by the Export Credits Guarantee Department, with Treasury consent. It had been agreed, in principle, that ECGD guarantees would be available to support the sale of Rolls-Royce engines on terms needed to compete with those available from US engine manufacturers, including the assumption of some risk in respect of the airframes.

Wednesday, 12 April

Import penetrations of tyres

Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked what was the percentage import penetration of tyres for cars and trucks, respectively, in each of the years 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978 to the end of February; and what were the countries of origin of major tyre importers in those years.

Mr Meacher said that the estimated import penetrations (based on numbers) of new tyres of the types used for cars and vans and for lorries and buses were:

Year	Tyres for cars and vans %	Tyres for lorries and buses %
1973	15	7
1974	18	11
1975	18	11
1976	21	9
1977 [1]	24	18

[1] Provisional.

Import penetration is the share taken by imports of the home market, which is defined as total sales by UK manufacturers, employing 25 or more persons, less exports plus imports. The main countries of consignment and their shares of the total number of these imports were:

Year	Tyres for cars and vans	Shares %
1973	Irish Republic	29
	Federal Republic of Germany	16
	Austria	14
1974	Irish Republic	24
	Federal Republic of Germany	15
	France	15
1975	Irish Republic	27
	Federal Republic of Germany	12
	France	10
1976	Irish Republic	30
	Federal Republic of Germany	16
	France	12
1977	Irish Republic	26
	France	17
	Federal Republic of Germany	16

Year	Tyres for lorries and buses	Shares %
1973	Austria	16
	France	16
	Federal Republic of Germany	15
1974	Federal Republic of Germany	21
	Austria	16
	France	15
1975	France	34
	Austria	15
	Netherlands	9
1976	France	29
	Federal Republic of Germany	17
	Austria	15
1977	France	25
	Federal Republic of Germany	21
	Japan	9

Figures for 1978 are not yet available.

Statistical service

David Hunt (Wirral) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many departmental surveys, questionnaires or similar investigations his department had in hand; how many civil servants were involved in collecting and processing the statistics; what was their estimated annual cost; and if he would list the statistical inquiries.

Mr Huckfield replied that the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protec-

tion, which shared a common statistical service, had in hand 33 statistical inquiries which were listed in the table below. This involved sending out 740 000 forms in 1977 compared with 950 000 in 1973, the last full year of the previous administration. At 1 April 1978 there were about 1170 civil servants involved in collecting and processing the statistics, roughly the same number as in 1973. Their estimated annual total cost, including the cost of support services borne on the votes of other departments was £8.8 million.

STATISTICAL INQUIRIES BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND PRICES AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Subject	Frequency	Type [1]
Industries' sales	quarterly	S
Census of production (manufacturing	annual	S
Census of production (construction)	annual	S
Mines and quarries	annual	S
Wholesaling and dealing	annual	S
Motor trades	annual	S
Retail distribution	annual	S
Property owning	annual	S
Catering	annual	S
Transport, entertainment and miscellaneous services	annual	S
Film distribution	annual	S
Film exhibitors	annual	S
Building materials	quarterly and monthly	S
Miscellaneous production and order statistics	various	V/S
Electricity generated by large users	quarterly	V
Purchasers of fuel by large users	quarterly	V
Fuel stocks/consumption of large users	monthly or quarterly	S
Capital expenditure	quarterly	V
Investment intentions	4 monthly	V
Stocks	monthly or quarterly	V
Export prospects	quarterly	V
Wholesale prices	monthly or quarterly	V
Overseas transactions	annual and quarterly	V
Company liquidity	quarterly	V
Insurance companies and private pension funds	annual and quarterly	V
Retail sales, stocks, hp, tv rental and relay	monthly	V
Finance houses and check trading	quarterly and monthly	V
Catering turnover	quarterly	V
Motor-trades turnover	quarterly	V
Computer services	quarterly	V
UK sea-passenger movements inquiry	when ship docks	S [2]
Food-price survey	weekly	V
Register-proving forms	one off	V

[1] S denotes a statutory inquiry (generally collected for Great Britain under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947 and for Northern Ireland under the Statistics of Trade (Northern Ireland) Act of 1949.); V denotes a voluntary inquiry; [2] collected under the Merchant Shipping Act of 1906.

Thursday, 13 April

Statement on Spillers closure

Jack Ashley (Stoke on Trent South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what discussions he had had with Spillers Bakery about the proposed closure of their bakeries; what other parties were present; what issues were discussed; and what conclusions were reached.

Mr Hattersley said that on 20 March, Spillers warned the Bank of England of the grave financial position it was facing as a result of sustained heavy losses in baking. Spillers feared the imminent collapse of its whole baking operation (with the loss of 13 000 jobs) and repercussions on its milling activity and consequent danger to the company's whole workforce of 29 000 employees. This information was given to the bank in absolute confidence, as the company believed that disclosure would precipitate the crisis and the collapse they feared. Two days later, his department, the Treasury and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were told of Spillers' crisis. Spillers told the bank (and later repeated to the government) that the only prospect of saving any of the jobs in baking was the sale of 13 bread bakeries to Rank Hovis McDougall Ltd (RHM) and Associated British Foods Ltd (ABF). Such a sale would save 5100 jobs, but there would still be 6370 full-time and 1620 part-time workers made redundant in the bakeries which were not acquired by RHM and ABF.

RHM and ABF told the government that they would not buy any of the 13 Spillers bakeries if their transfer was subject to a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as the uncertainty that such a reference would create might make the viable operation of the bakeries impossible during the next few months. The Director General of Fair Trading – carrying out his statutory responsibilities – examined the financial status of Spillers and advised him both on the facts of Spillers' submission and the action he should take. On 4 April he saw – together with the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Minister of State at Maff – the chairman of Spillers. Owing to parliamentary duties the Secretary of State for Employment was unable to attend but he (the employment secretary) and the other interested departments were represented by officials. The initial hope was to delay the closures and sales until the necessary notice had been given to the trade unions concerned and until the government had considered other options. The company repeated its conviction that delay would result in the immediate collapse of its baking interests and that immediate consultations with the trade unions could only result in a public admission of its financial position and a loss of business which would prevent the bakery sales and the protection of employment within them.

Later that afternoon they saw directors of RHM and ABF who insisted that unless they were assured of unhindered purchase they would not acquire the 13 bakeries. After discussion, they gave assurances that, if no merger reference was made, they would keep open the 13 bakeries for at least a year and would expect to recruit over 2000 extra staff in addition to those employed in the acquired bakeries. After taking into account both the advice of the Director General of Fair Trading and the evidence obtained during consultations with the industry, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection and his colleagues came to the conclusion that a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission could only result in the transfer of the 13 bakeries being abandoned and 5100 redundancies being made which would not come about if the sale went ahead. They therefore decided that – despite strong arguments to the contrary – the proposed transfers should not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. They were reinforced in this view by the knowledge that the £15.5 million paid to Spillers by other baking companies would be used to compensate redundant workers. The secretary told the chairman of Spillers his decision on 7 April.

It was obviously unsatisfactory that the government should have been placed in the position, at short notice and when there had been no prior consultation with unions or others concerned, of having to choose between saving as many jobs as possible and having a full investigation of mergers which raised important issues of public interest. But it believed that if it had made a merger reference, which would have required the transfer of the bakeries to be delayed, the results for employment would have been much worse. It therefore considered that it had no alternative but to take the decision that it did.

Confidential information

Robert Edwards (Wolverhampton South East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, whether he was satisfied that provisions for confidentiality did not impede an exchange of information between anti-trust authorities of the European Economic Community and some third countries about the activities of multinational companies in the sphere of competition policy; and, if so, what action he intended to take in the near future.

Mr Fraser answered that the competition laws of most developed countries, including the UK and the European Economic Community itself, contained provisions restraining the unauthorised disclosure to third parties of information which firms have supplied in confidence and often on a voluntary basis to competition authorities. Governments may also find it necessary to prevent disclosure of information about their companies' activities in order to protect legitimate national interests. The implications of this in relation to multinational companies were under discussion in OECD.

UK industry

Robin Hodgson (Walsall North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what evidence he had of foreign competitors of British engineering firms receiving subventions from their governments in their exports to the United Kingdom; whether steps taken by his government to stimulate capital investment in the heavier industries had resulted in an increase in imports; and what evidence he had of United Kingdom contracts being lost to foreign competitors by British firms as a result of government's efforts to stimulate capital investment in United Kingdom industry.

Mr Cryer replied that any steps taken by the government to stimulate investment would inevitably, to some degree, result in increased imports, though not necessarily an increase in import penetration (and in fact the import content of heavier goods was lower than average). However, the government was taking all the steps it could to encourage domestic manufacturers of capital equipment to meet the demand for such equipment. Export subsidies were banned under the general agreement on tariffs and trade and, apart from cases under examination there, he had no evidence of subsidies for exports to the UK outside those areas where the department had already taken countervailing action. If any evidence were to become available they would wish to look into it urgently.

Meeting with small business committee

Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry when he proposed to meet the small business committee of the Confederation of British Industry.

Mr Cryer said that the secretary of state had no immediate plans to do so but the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and he both attended the meeting of the council which was held on 1 March 1978.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Post Office pension fund

Roger Stott (Westhoughton) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he had any further statement to make about the deficiency in the Post Office pension fund.

Mr Varley replied that the chairman of the Post Office announced earlier that day that the Post Office had found a solution to the long-standing problem of funding that part of the deficiency attributed to the period before the Post Office was established as a public corporation. The proposal would involve the creation of an interest-bearing security financed from the reserves of the Post Office and held by the pension fund. The security would be structured so as to provide the same flow of money to the pension fund as currently derives from present arrangements. This proposal, which would involve no increase in public expenditure, was acceptable in principle to the government.

Post Office meter checks

Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would issue a general direction to the Post Office forbidding them from releasing to the police or any other body the original printed tape recording made from a meter check printer attached to a subscriber's telephone without his consent.

Mr Huckfield said that be would not offer such a direction. He understood that it was the Post Office's policy not to release the original printed record from a meter check printer to the police or any other body, except to a court of law when required by the court to do so.

Oil tankers in the Thames

Sir Bernard Braine (South East Essex) asked what was the maximum size of oil tankers permitted to enter the Thames estuary fully laden.

Mr Clinton Davis said that ships with a draught not exceeding 13.7 in entered the Thames estuary. This was equivalent to a fully laden oil tanker of about 100 000 deadweight tonnes though larger tankers partly laden entered the estuary.

Bread costs

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if, in view of the disparity between the retail cost of a loaf of bread and the cost of the raw materials which it contained, he would refer the level of bread prices to the Price Commission.

Mr Maclennan said that he did not believe it would be useful, in the light of recent events in the industry and of the report last year by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on flour and bread, to refer the industry to the Price Commission for a sectoral examination. It was for the Price Commission, not for him, to decide whether the price increases prenotified by bakers should be investigated.

Bodies established by DPCP

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would publish details of the boards, commissions, committees or other types of organisations established by his department since October 1974, giving in each case the purpose of the organisation, the chairman's and members' salaries and expenses, and the total cost of the organisation for each year since 1974.

Mr Maclennan gave the information below. Bodies which were both established and wound up since 1974 had not been included.

Body	Established	Purpose	Membership and remuneration	Expenses	Total costs
Advisory committee on the safety of household electrical equipment	Apr 1975	To advise the Minister of State on his responsibilities in relation to the safety of domestic electrical equipment, with particular reference to the administrative guidance to be issued by his department from time to time concerning the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations.	14 members (all unpaid)	1975 £305 1976 £56 1977 £56	(a)
Electricity Consumer's Council	Nov 1977	To consider any matter affecting the interests of consumers of electricity in England and Wales and to make representations to the Secretary of State on any matters which have been considered by the council.	Chairman £2000 pa 23 members [1] (all unpaid) [1] The members include the 12 chairmen of area Electricity Consultative Councils who are paid £2100 pa in that capacity.	Not yet available	
Inquiry into motorway service areas	Nov 1977	Set up jointly with the Department of Transport to consider and report on how far the present facilities and services available at motorway service areas meet the convenience of motorway users having particular regard to price, quality, variety and effective competition; and what further provisions should be made for the convenience of travellers, bearing in mind road safety and any other relevant matters.	Chairman 8 members (all unpaid)	Not yet available	
National Consumer Council	May 1975	To represent the consumers' interests in all quarters, and to consider and report on the consumer interest in matters specifically referred to it by government. The Scottish and Welsh Consumer Councils perform the same functions in their respective countries.	Chairman £4084 pa Vice-chairman £3912 pa [2] 15 members £750 pa [2] [2]also chairman of Scottish Consumer Council [3] includes chairman of Welsh Consumer Council	(b)	Total cost to public funds of the National Consumer Council and the Scottish and Welsh Consumer Councils 1974-75 £500 1975-76 £320 000 1976-77 £452 000 1977-78 £521,000
Scottish Consumer Council	Sep 1975	—	Chairman £750 pa 12 members, fee paid (£18 per day)	(b)	(see above)
Welsh Consumer Council	July 1975	—	Chairman £750 pa 11 members, fee paid (£18 per day)	(b)	(see above)
Tate and Lyle consumer safeguards	June 1977	Set up jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to investigate any complaints referred to it by the customers of Tate and Lyle since their merger with Manbre and Garton Ltd, and to report to Ministers.	Chairman 6 members (all unpaid)		All expenses are paid by Tate and Lyle. There are no costs to public funds

(a) The total costs are mainly, if not exclusively, the expenses of the members, together, in certain cases, with the cost incurred by officials in providing a secretariat, information on which is not readily available. (b) Travel and subsistence expenses incurred directly on the business of the organisation are normally re-imbursed at the rates applicable to senior civil servants. The annual total of expenses re-imbursed is not readily available.

Friday, 14 April

Scheduled fares

R. C. Mitchell (Southampton, Itchen) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he would have urgent talks with British Airways and other interested bodies with a view to reducing scheduled fares on the major European air routes; and whether he would refer this whole matter to the Price Commission.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied that international air fares were outside the scope of the Price Commission. They had to be approved by the governments at both ends of each route and could not be changed unilaterally. Fares between this country and Europe were being closely studied by the Civil Aviation Authority in collaboration with British Airways and the other British carriers concerned.

Consumer advice centres

Ian Wrigglesworth (Teeside, Thornaby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he would list any changes that have been made to the allocation of capital grants by his department to consumer advice centres from that announced on 22 February in answer to a question from Dr Edmund Marshall (Goole) (see Trade and Industry, *3 March).*

Mr Fraser said that his department had been able to provide capital grants to a further six centres. The centres were as follows:

Strathclyde Regional Council	East Kilbride
	Glasgow (St. Enoch Sq.)
West Midlands Citizens' Advice Bureau Area Office	Walsall
	West Midlands (Mobile)
London Borough of Lambeth	(Mobile)
London Borough of Haringey	Wood Green

Five of these are new centres. The grant to the Glasgow centre is for improvements. He regretted that Highlands Regional Council, the London Borough of Barnet and Walsall District Council felt unable to take up his department's offer of grant for centres in Fort William, Inverness, Wick, Barnet and Walsall.

British Leyland

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, why, in his written answer on Monday, 3 April he had imposed a rate of return on capital to be earned by British Leyland of 10 per cent by 1981, when, in the scheme of arrangement concerning the British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd., in paragraph 8(b), it was stated that the rate of return on capital was to be 19.6 per cent in 1981-82.

Mr Huckfield replied that the forecast rate of return of 19.6 per cent contained in the explanatory statement on the scheme of arrangement (dated 18 June 1975) to which the questioner referred was an explicit quotation from the Ryder report. The immediately following section of the explanatory statement pointed out that the board of British Leyland did not feel able at that time to make any forecast as to profitability over the next few years and that, in the light of the Ryder report, it did not foresee any likelihood of dividends for some years to come. The board also advised all shareholders to take up the government's offer for their shares. The financial duty to obtain a return of 10 per cent in 1981 on the capital employed in British Leyland had been imposed on the National Enterprise Board in the light of its report on the company's corporate plan for 1978-81, in which the NEB stated that a higher target would not be realistic.

British tyres

Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make it a condition of any future loans or grants to the British Leyland Car Company that the only tyres that should be fitted to their cars or trucks should be of British manufacture.

Mr Huckfield said that he would not do so. Decisions as to the source of supply of any particular component must continue to be left to the commercial judgement of the company. However, he understood that BL's practice was to purchase tyres for both cars and commercial vehicles from British manufacturers whenever possible and that foreign tyre purchases last year constituted a negligible proportion of the total.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

European community news

South Africa and Japan sign steel agreements

South Africa and Japan have now signed agreements with the EEC on the price and tonnage of their steel exports to the community in 1978. The agreements were signed on 7 April and 10 April respectively.

The agreement with South Africa includes a limitation on exports to the community in 1978 of 300 000 tonnes of iron and steel products and 32 000 tonnes of semi-finished products. The agreement with Japan follows previous discussions in which the Japanese forecast their exports of steel products to the community in 1978.

Both agreements allow for a competitive margin on community producers' prices of 6 per cent for bulk steels and 4 per cent for special steels. The agreements provide for consultations to take place should difficulties arise and there is also provision for a review of the arrangements to take place by July, in the case of Japan, and October, for South Africa.

At the council of ministers on 19 to 20 December 1977, it was decided that the commission should seek agreements with the major steel supplying countries on the price and tonnage of their exports to the community in 1978. The first agreement was concluded in March with the Efta countries.

Further agreements are in progress with other major suppling countries. The community will continue to monitor imports through the surveillance licensing scheme.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Flexibility sought in draft directives on company law

'We have sought to achieve greater flexibility during our negotiations in Brussels over the past five years. This flexibility is necessary firstly to accommodate our differing legal and administrative structures and secondly to enable the law, as far as possible, to adapt to new developments and changing circumstances after directives have been adopted,' Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, told the *Financial Times* conference on 'Business and the European Communities' on 10 April. He was speaking on the EEC's company law harmonisation programme.

He told the conference that both the second and fourth directives would have a significant impact on UK company law.

'The second directive will cause us to redefine the definitions of public and private companies and include distinctions between the two types of company in respect of minimum capital requirements. We will also be required to follow general EEC practice and have a different designation for public companies to distinguish them from private companies,' the minister said.

He said the fourth directive on company accounts could well be adopted by the summer. This directive will introduce two new aspects into company accounts in the UK: prescribed rules for their layout and rules for the valuation of assets. In this context the government's own proposals on the future contents of company reports were published last July in the form of a green paper.

The draft third directive dealing with certain types of merger was at an advanced stage and could also be adopted before the end of 1978. However, most of the mergers which took place in Britain were takeovers, which were not covered by the third directive. In addition the draft sixth directive on the prospectuses issued when securities were quoted on stock exchanges, and a draft directive on the conditions for admission of securities to stock exchange quotation could also be ready for adoption by the end of this year. UK stock exchange procedures were better developed than was generally the case elsewhere in the EEC, and UK standards were higher than was required in these draft directives. Thus, the directives should have little impact on existing UK practice.

Mr Clinton Davis concluded that the future of the company law programme must leave room, for present differences and future flexibility.

EEC reaches understandings with textile suppliers

In a debate on textiles arising from the multifibre negotiations at the end of 1977, Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, told the Commons on 11 April that the European commission had secured informal understandings from six Mediterranean textile suppliers. Mr Meacher said that because of their preferential relationship with the EEC, none of the Mediterranean suppliers, with the exception of Egypt, were prepared to enter into separate textile agreements.

Morocco and Tunisia, he continued, had agreed to a voluntary restraint on their exports of certain sensitive products. Similar arrangements had also been agreed with the textile and clothing industries in Greece and Turkey, and discussions were continuing with Spain and Portugal in an attempt to reach similar agreement.

In the meantime both countries had been notified of levels that should not be exceeded and had been warned of possible safeguard action. All these arrangements applied in the first instance to 1978, but the commission intended to make similar arrangements in subsequent years.

Mr Meacher said that a close watch was being kept on the level of imports from these countries so that the commission could be alerted if the agreed levels were threatened.

The commission had given an undertaking at the 20 December council that appropriate action would be taken promptly if it became necessary.

To achieve this surveillance, an 'early-warning system' was being planned, Mr Meacher said, to bring the UK surveillance licensing of non-restricted textiles into line with the new MFA product categories. A community-wide surveillance system based on early information about actual imports was also being set up.

Mr Meacher said particular attention had been paid to the most sensitive products: cotton yarn, cotton cloth, synthetic cloth, knitted shirts, jumpers, trousers, blouses and woven shirts. All were products where import penetration was high he said. Low cost imports of these eight products were now restricted within global ceilings, both for the EEC as a whole and for each member state.

The effect of these ceilings should be the virtual stabilisation of import penetration because imports from new suppliers would have to be contained within the overall limits. This was a significant new departure for the EEC which, because these eight products represented about 60 per cent of UK total low-cost imports, should be of great benefit to the UK industry.

See *Trade and Industry*, 14 April, page 80.

European foundation proposals agreed

At the European council held on 7 to 8 April, heads of government agreed firm proposals on the scope and objective of a European foundation, to be set up in Paris, and on the framework for its structure and financing.

The foundation will be set up on the basis of an agreement by representatives of member governments, and it will be financed from voluntary contributions by public and private sources, with an initial endowment made from the community budget. Further endowments may possibly be made. Formal discussions will now follow to get the foundation under way.

The foundation will be a modest and sharply-focused body which will aim at improving understanding between the peoples of the community and promoting better understanding of the European cultural heritage and of European integration. It will have a high degree of autonomy and be sufficiently flexible to co-operate with existing bodies to avoid overlap with existing activities.

Operating primarily in an indirect way, and through existing bodies, the foundation will act as a catalyst to promote exchanges and contact, particularly in respect of the young but also more widely.

Activities will be social and cultural, including the promotion of contacts between social and professional groups, the relation between science and society in the context of European integration, information on the life of the peoples of Europe, and promoting knowledge of languages.

The idea of a European foundation originated in the 1976 Tindemans report on European union which saw it as a means of promoting human contact within the community, and helping to make the community more relevant to the public. The idea was developed further, first in a commission report and, following the December 1977 European council, in a commission communication.

NCB receives £31m ECSC loan

Fourteen National Coal Board investment projects are to be financed by a £31 million loan approved by the European commission. The loan has been approved under article 54 of the European Coal and Steel Community treaty.

The projects are to develop output and improve manriding and coal clearance at Goldthorpe/Highgate colliery; to install a new underground conveyor system and construct a new coal preparation plant at Askern colliery; to increase output and install new coal preparation facilities at Houghton main colliery; to improve the quality of output at Grimethorpe colliery; to increase the capacity of the existing coal preparation plant at Manton colliery; to improve rail loading facilities at Thoresby colliery; to increase colliery output at Harworth colliery; to extend the major underground roads and provide additional ventilation facilities at Wearmouth colliery; to improve rail loading facilities at Bagworth-Ellistown colliery; to develop new areas of reserves at Lady Windsor/Abercynon colliery; to develop new areas of reserves at Lea Hall colliery; to connect the two collieries underground and to develop new areas of reserves at Seafield/Frances colliery; to install a new electric winder at Bentley colliery; and to install a new electric winder at Prickley/South Elmsall colliery.

The loan will be disbursed in phase with the progress on the projects and the terms of each instalment will depend upon market conditions at the time of disbursement.

Cyprus initials agricultural tariff concessions

Cyprus has accepted tariff reductions on certain agricultural products offered by the EEC. The terms are a temporary arrangement for two years pending the introduction of stage two of the EEC-Cyprus association agreement, and were announced in the House of Commons on 22 March by Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

He said that agreement on these terms had been reached at the 7 March EEC foreign affairs council, following two rounds of negotiations with the Cypriots and discussions within the community during which Britain had pressed for improvements on previous offers.

Mr Judd explained that the new offer was a move towards recognition of Cyprus' special economic and political circumstances. Cyprus has accepted tariff reductions on new potatoes amounting to 65 per cent for the 1978 season and 55 per cent for 1979, with a timetable that includes their main exporting season, and a 60 per cent concession on grapes covering the first half of the export season, and other lesser concessions on carrots and other vegetables. The community was also safeguarding the traditional Cyprus sherry trade.

Revised proposal to illegal immigrants' directive

The European commission has sent to the council a revised proposal aimed at the harmonisation of legislation on preventing and abolishing illegal immigration and employment in member states.

The main additions to the proposal state that employers' obligations on, for example, wages, social security and taxes, be carried out as though the employment had been legal.

Provisions contained in an earlier draft directive, approved by the commission on 3 November 1976, are retained. These are aimed at informing possible immigrants of the regulations and administrative provisions applying in member states, punishing organisers, and guaranteeing illegal immigrants a system of appeal against expulsion.

Australian minister on European tour

Victor Garland, left, Australian Minister for Special Trade Representations, with Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade (right), and Shridath S. Ramphal of Guyana, at the two-day Commonwealth ministerial meeting on the common fund. Mr Garland is on a tour of EEC member state capitals. See story on page 157.

Council adopts export credit guidelines

The agreement on guidelines for officially supported export credits – the Consensus – has been renewed by the EEC with the adoption of a council decision on the application of certain guidelines in this field. Legally, the system came into force on 1 April.

The guidelines, which cover credits with a

repayment delay of two years or more, are basically unchanged from those adopted by the EEC in March 1977. However, procedures have been strengthened and certain definitions incorporated.

Negotiations on the guidelines took place over several months and were due to be ratified by 1 April by the negotiating parties, the EEC, Australia, Canada, Spain, the United States, Finland, Greece, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland. The guidelines will come up for review at least once a year, with the first examination scheduled for October 1978.

Alleged dumping of ferro-chrome

The European commission has received information indicating that dumping is being practised or that bounties or subsidies are being granted in respect of imports of ferro-chrome – CCT sub-heading ex 73.02 E.I. (Nimexe: 73.02-51) – originating in South Africa and Sweden and that this is causing injury to a community industry. In conjunction with the member states, the commission has accordingly begun examination of the matter at community level in accordance with council regulation (EEC) 459/68 of 5 April 1968, as amended by regulations (EEC) 2011/73 and (EEC) 1411/77, on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Economic Community.

Any information relating to the matter may be sent in writing to the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations, 200 rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels. It would be helpful if copies of all representations to the commission could also be sent to the Department of Trade's Anti-dumping Unit, Room 348, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Interested parties may by 30 April make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to the parties known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence.

Furthermore, the commission will hear parties directly concerned who so request when making known their views to the commission, provided they can show that they have an interest sufficient to entitle them to express their views more fully.

UK receives £85m from social fund

Allocations totalling £85.1 million were made to the United Kingdom from the European social fund in 1977, John Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Employment, told the Commons in a written reply on 12 April.

The largest proportion of the allocation, £76.3 million, was provided for government training schemes, with the training opportunities scheme in assisted areas accounting for £35 million and the government's special measures to alleviate unemployment for about £12.5 million.

Disabled people received £6 million towards providing better training and employment prospects.

Grants from the social fund are intended to provide 50 per cent of the cost of schemes carried out directly under the auspices of government agencies. Where schemes are being financed by private bodies, grants are intended to match contributions from public funds.

EIB loans for UK water and sewerage schemes

Two loans totalling the equivalent of £31 million (48.3 million units of account) to finance water supply and sewerage schemes in the north of England, have been granted by the European Investment Bank to the National Water Council (NWC).

The first loan is for the equivalent of £16 million, provided for 15 years at a rate of interest of 8.55 per cent. It will be passed on by the NWC to the North West Water Authority for financing water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal schemes on Merseyside and within Cumbria, Lancashire, Manchester and Lancaster.

The second is for the equivalent of £15 million, provided for 20 years at a rate of interest of 9.30 per cent. It will be on-lent by NWC to the Yorkshire Water Authority for financing water supply schemes in the Yorkshire and Humberside region.

The two loans correspond to about 22 per cent of the total capital investment cost (£140 million) of the schemes concerned.

With these funds, the bank has now lent more than £220 million for reinforcing and modernising water supply and sewerage systems in Great Britain in recognition of their cardinal importance to the economic advancement of regional development areas.

Proposed suspensions of the CCT

The Department of Trade is considering applications for new suspensions of the common customs tariff (CCT) on the following on the grounds that these materials are not available from within the European Economic Community:

Tariff heading	Description
29.23E	Diethyl 1, 3-benzodioxol-5-ylaminomethylenemalonate
39.02 CII	Microporous polytetrafluoroethylene film, not less than 3 cm in width and weighing not more than 22.4 g/m²

The applications relate to the period 1 January 1979 to 30 June 1979.

If any UK companies are already manufacturing goods (or like or competing goods) or expect shortly to be in production, so that their interests would be adversely affected by a suspension of the CCT, they should notify the Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 3576. Information should reach the department not later than 5 May.

First EIB exchange guarantee loan signed

Alan Williams, right, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, with D. J. Brown, managing director of DJB Engineering, signing the first European Investment Bank loan, given under the exchange guarantee scheme, on 12 April. The loan is worth £2 million. See *Trade and Industry*, 14 April, page 75.

Firms expected to observe SA trade code – Huckfield

British Leyland and other UK firms will be expected to observe the EEC code of conduct on trade with South Africa, Leslie Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, said on 3 April.

Replying to a parliamentary question, he said that the implementation of the code of conduct was still being discussed with the TUC and CBI. But as soon as those talks had been concluded, the Secretary of State for Trade would commend the code to all British companies with interests in South Africa. 'We shall expect British Leyland to observe it along with all other British companies concerned.'

Mr Huckfield added that British Leyland had announced that it was reviewing its overseas activities including those in South Africa.

Changes proposed for anti-dumping measures

Proposals to amend the law on measures to deal with dumping were contained in the budget resolutions.

The changes are needed because of the recent transition to full community membership which gives responsibility for anti-

dumping action on most products to the EEC commission.

The Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969 will be repealed except as it relates to products subject to the rules of the European Coal and Steel Community. In this area, the UK retains the right to take independent action in any case not dealt with by the commission.

The resolution also provides for a simpler procedure for the implementation in the UK of anti-dumping duties that have been recommended by the commission for these ECSC products.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons in the seven days up to 7 April 1978 (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in the parentheses). The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

R/635/78 COM91(78) FINAL
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 38 000 head of heifers and cows other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II (*b*) of the Common Customs Tariff; Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 5 000 head of bulls, cows and heifers other than those intended for slaughter, of certain Alpine breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II (*b*) of the Common Customs Tariff.

R/698/78 COM114(78) FINAL
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the programme for the acceleration and qualitative guidance of collective irrigation works in the Mezzogiorno (amendment according to Article 149(2) EEC of a proposal for a Council Directive having the same subject).

R/719/78 Com106(78) FINAL
Draft Council Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for certain eels falling within subheading ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff (1 July 1978-30 June 1979).

S/571/78 COM104(78) FINAL
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the application of the provisions of the Financial Protocols concluded with Greece, Turkey and Portugal.

R/691/78 COM118(78) FINAL
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No. 804/68 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products.

R/749/78 COM112(78) FINAL
Draft Council Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products.

S/611/78 COM125(78) FINAL
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) concerning the arrangements applicable to trade in the agricultural sector between the European Economic Community and Cyprus.

Consultative documents

S/530/78 COM95(78) FINAL
Commission communication to the Council on the creation of a European Agency for Co-operation (EAC).

R/641/78 COM101(78) FINAL
The Community and world energy situation.

R/642/78 COM98(78) FINAL
Investment projects in the electricity sector of the Community.

R/732/78 COM132(78) FINAL
Proposal for the transfer of appropriations between Chapters within the Commission budget estimates for the 1977 financial year (Titles 6 and 7 – EAGGF – Guarantee) (Article 101 of the Financial Regulation).

S/249/78 COM23(78) FINAL
Commission communication on the need for Community action to encourage European investment in developing countries and guidelines for such action.

R/530/78 SEC144(78) FINAL
Draft Agreement between the European Economic Community and the European Trade Union Institute.

R/733/78 COM131(78) FINAL
Proposal for a transfer of appropriations between Chapters of the Commission's budget estimates for the financial year 1978 (Implementation of the International Olive Oil Agreement).

Choosing a community business partner

The Commission of the European Communities set up the Business Co-operation Centre to encourage co-operation between firms in different member states wishing to increase competitiveness and respond to the opportunities opened up by access to the community's markets. Co-operation is defined as pooling one or more activites of partner firms: for example, in research and development, supplies, production, marketing and sales and management.

A firm seeking the centre's help will be asked to provide certain information about itself, and to define exactly what type of partner and what type of co-operation it wants. All the information supplied, and any inquiries received, are treated as strictly confidential, and no names are revealed without the agreement of all parties. The centre will search its files for a suitable partner, and if the application cannot be matched with an offer already registered, will, if the firm agrees, circulate a summary of the firm's requirements, with no names mentioned, to the 'correspondents' which it has in every community country.

Readers wishing to obtain further information about the requests for co-operation below should write direct to the centre at the following address, quoting the reference number of the request(s) in which they are interested: Business Co-operation Centre, rue Archimede 17, B-1040 Brussels. The centre makes no charge for its services.

BRE/4732/441
French industrialist who owns among other businesses a tannery for producing leather for high-quality upholstery, motor-cycling clothes, boots (calf), shoes and small leathergoods employing 45 with a turnover of FF 13 million, seeks, for personal reasons, a partner who would take a majority holding in the business.

BRE/5020/83
French firm of consulting engineers, active in industrial and infrastructure engineering, with a team of specialists in various disciplines (including thermal installations, noise control, weak current circuits) seeks contact with a British firm of consulting engineers interested in having access to French and African markets. Shareholding by partner leading to gradual take-over is preferred. Languages: French, English.

BRE/4969/259.2
A French company manufacturing and selling chemical products for industrial use and maintenance purposes (specialised surfactants for industry, solvents and degreasers, descaling products, etc); with 45 employees (of which 35 are exclusive sales agents) and a turnover of FF 10 million. Seeks EEC partner manufacturing non-competitive products for the industrial sector (eg, sanding pistols, working gloves, cutting oils, cleaning wads). Co-operation would involve each partner selling the other's products. Languages: French, English.

BRE/5001/501
French group of firms with headquarters in Paris, established in six West African countries and specialising in the construction of industrial buildings, hospital and hotel complexes, water reservoirs, television stations and studios, educational constructions and civil engineering works, seeks a partner specialised in road construction who either works only in his national market and wishes to expand his activities geographically, or is established in other African regions or in the Middle East.

The co-operation would envisage a pooling of technical resources to allow tendering for more important orders as well as the introduction of each partner to the geographical market of the other.

It is possible that a joint subsidiary could be set up or cross participation be made. Languages: French, English, German.

BRE/4625/34
Italian company, with 250 staff and a turnover of L 5000 million, engaged in design, construction and contracting of electrical installations (street lighting, industrial installations, control units) in Italy, the Middle East (Saudi Arabia, Iran) and Nigeria, seeks partner with complementary activity (civil engineering, other electrical contracting) and markets, in order to tender jointly for overseas contracts. Languages: Italian, French, English.

Official publications on community matters

The following selected publications, issued during period 1 March to 31 March 1978 can be ordered from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, quoting the standard book number in parentheses after each title:

Parliament
Command papers
7089: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 19 (1978) Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the council, opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in Egypt. Luxembourg, 28 June 1977. 4 pp. (0 10 170890 4) 15p.

7093: European Communities No. 6 (1978) Agreement extending the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco. Brussels. 30 June 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 July 1977.] 7 pp. (0 10 170930 7) 25p.

7103: European Communities No. 45 (1977). Agreement between the European Economic Community and Hong Kong on Trade in Textile Products. Brussels, March 26, 1976. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 June 1976.] 20 pp. (0 10 171030 5) 35p.

7104: European Communities No. 9 (1978). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Colombia on Trade in Textile Products. Brussels, 29 January 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 16 pp. (0 10 171040 2). 35p.

7105: European Communities No. 10 (1978). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Federative Republic of Brazil on Trade in Textile Products. Brussels, 13 January 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community.] 8 pp. (30g). (0 10 171050 X). 25p.

7106: European Communities No. 7 (1978). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of Japan on Trade in Textiles (with Exchange of Notes). Brussels 9 July 1976. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 August 1976.] 14 pp. (0 10 171060 7). 25p.

7107: European Communities No. 11 (1978). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on Trade in Textile Products. Brussels, 30 June 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 12 pp. (0 10 171070 4) 25p.

House of Lords papers and bills (1977-78)

9th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. Starch and Seeds 1. R/1969/77 Commission Report on Starch Products in the Community and the Starch Production Refunds. 2. R/2294/77 Commission Report on the Causes of Fluctuations on the Community Market in Seeds in the Last Three Years. 41 pp. (0 10 404878 6) £1.25.

12th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. Fortnightly Report. 14 February 1978. 1. Membership of Sub-Committees. 2. Sixth Sift of European Communities Proposals. 3. Annex. 15 pp. (0 10 407478 7). 35p.

13th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. Fortnightly Report. 28 February 1978. 1. Seventh Sift of European Communities Proposals. 2. Annex. 16 pp. (0 10 408878 0). 35p.

14th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. EEC Farm Prices, 1978-79 R/3200/77 and R/3295/77: Commission Proposals on Fixing the Prices for certain Agricultural Products and certain related Measures. R/2601/77: Draft Regulation relating to the fixing of representative conversion rates in Agriculture. 19 pp. (0 10 409778 7) 35p.

15th Report. Select Committee on the European Communities. Milk. R/27/78: Commission Proposals for Milk Producers' Organisations (Milk Marketing Boards). R/2648/77: Commission Communication concerning the use of Co-responsibility Levy Funds in the Milk Sector. 6 pp. (0 10 409878 3) 25p.

House of Commons papers and bills (1977-78)

13th Report. Select Committee on European Legislation, etc. Together with the Minutes of Evidence taken by the Committee on 25 January 1978 and Appendices Agricultural Price Proposals. 1978-79. 56 pp. (0 10 277478 1) 75p.

14th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc. Together with the Proceedings of the Committee. Agricultural Trade with Cyprus, Animal Feedingstuffs. 15 pp. (0 10 278378 0) 35p.

15th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc. Together with the Proceedings of the Committee. Mediterranean Regions. Milk Marketing, Fishing Plans. 16 pp. (0 10 278478 7) 35p.

16th Report from the Select Committee on European Legislation, etc. Together with the Proceedings of the Committee. Agri-monetary System. Wine Marketing. 16 pp. (0 10 280978 X) 35p.

Commission of the European Communities

Graphs and Notes on the Economic Situation in the Community. 1, 1978. (E/Da.) (297 mm). 19 pp. (0 11 0937221 5) £1.70.

Information on Agriculture:

25 Forestry Problems and their Implications for the Environment in the Member States of the E.C. 1. Results and Recommendations. November 1976. (E-F). (297 mm.) 139 pp. (0 11 937222 3) £1.85.

Directorate-General Information:

Newsletter on the Common Agricultural Policy. Special Issue. Extract from the 1977 Report on the Agricultural Situation in the community. February 1978. (E/F/G/D/Da/I). (216 mm.) 154 pp. Illus. (92 825 0131 0) £1.80.

ECSC, EEC, EAEC: Bulletin of the European Communities. No. 12, 1977. 10th year. (E/F/G/D/Da/I/S). (244 mm.) 176 pp. (0 11 937224 X) £1.35.

Eleventh General Report on the Activities of the European Communities 1977. February 1978. (E/F/G/D/Da/I). (216 mm.) 339 pp. (92 825 0014 4) £3.20.

Agricultural Markets. Vegetable Products. Prices. 2/1978. (E/F/G/D/Da/I). (297 mm.) 130 pp. (0 11 937227 4) ISSN 0378-4436 £2.00

Exporting to the European Community. Information for Foreign Exporters. (244 mm.) 74 pp. (0 11 937212 6) 80p.

ECSC, EEC, EAEC:

Programme of the Commission for 1978. February 1978. (E/F/G/D/Da/I). (216 mm.) 56 pp. (92-825-0103 5) £1.00.

Debates of the European Parliament. 1977-78 Session. Report of Proceedings from 16 to 20 January 1978. 249 pp. (0 11 990163 3) £5.00.

Elections to the European Parliament by Direct Universal Suffrage. July 1977. (244 mm.) 160 pp., illus. (0 11 937234 7). £2.80.

Bulletin of the European Communities (ECSC, EEC, EAEC). No. 1, 1978. 11th Year. (E/F/G/D/Da/I/S). (244 mm.) 154 pp. (0 11 937242 8). ISSN 0378 3693 £1.35.

Results of the Business Survey carried out among Managements in the Community. 2, 1978. (E/F/G/D/Da/I). (210 mm. × 297 mm.) 98 pp. (0 11 937243 6). ISSN 0378 4479 £5.05.

European Parliament Secretariat:

Europe Today. State of European Integration. 31 March 1977. (188 mm. × 244 mm.) 350 pp. loose leaf. (0 11 937246 0) £4.70.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Offical Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common Agricultural Policy

The texts of the following regulations and decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General. Regulation (EEC) 651/78 on the obligatory alterations to be made to monetary compensatory amounts fixed in advance (*Official Journal* L86, 1 April 1978).

Beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 622/78 amending regulation (EEC) 3376/75 as regards the calculation of the amounts by which import charges on beef and veal products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific states are reduced (*Official Journal* L84, 31 March 1978).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 625/78 on detailed rules of application for public storage of skimmed-milk powder (*Official Journal* L84, 31 March 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 649/78 on the sale at reduced prices of intervention butter for direct consumption as concentrated butter (*Official Journal* L86, 1 April 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 689/78 amending article 1 of regulation (EEC) 1307/77 as regards the time limit fixed for lodging applications for premiums by replacing the words 'between 1 July 1977 and 31 March 1978' by 'between 1 July 1977 and the end of the 1977-78 milk year' (*Official Journal* L93, 7 April 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 718/78 amending regulation (EEC) 2054/76 on the sale to non-member countries of skimmed-milk powder held by intervention agencies and intended for use as feed (*Official Journal* L94, 8 April 1978).

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 686/78 laying down additional provisions as regards the granting of export refunds on fishery products (*Official Journal* L93, 7 April 1978).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 688/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1393/76 laying down detailed rules for the importation of products in the wine-growing sector originating in certain third countries (*Official Journal* L93, 7 April 1978).

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 705/78 amending regulation (EEC) 3330/74 on the common organisation of the market in sugar (*Official Journal* L94, 8 April 1978).

Regulation 706/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1111/77 laying down common provisions for isoglucose (*Official Journal* L94, 8 April 1978).

Hops. Regulation (EEC) 708/78 adopting the list of regions where, from the 1978 harvest onwards, aid to hop producers shall be granted only to recognised producer groups (*Official Journal* L94, 8 April 1978).

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 707/78 amending regulation (EEC) 2682/72 laying down general rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by annex II to the treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds (*Official Journal* L94, 8 April 1978).

Seeds and plants. The *Official Journal* L93, 7 April 1978 contains the text of decision 78/328/EEC extending decision 78/200/EEC authorising member states to permit temporarily the marketing of forestry reproductive material not complying with requirements of directive 66/404/EEC.

Harmonisation of legislation

EEC pattern approvals. The *Official Journal* C79, 3 April 1978, contains a notice about EEC pattern approvals, published in application of directive 71/316/EEC on the approximation of the law of the member states relating to common provisions for both measuring instruments and methods of metrological control. The pattern approvals are for meters for liquids other than water/ancillary equipment, non-automatic weighing machines, gas meters, alcoholometers and alcohol hydrometers, measures of length and cold-water meters.

Copies of *Official Journal* C79, may be obtained from HMSO price £1.20 plus postage.

Customs regulations. The *Official Journal* L83, 30 March 1978, contains the text of regulation (EEC) 607/78 amending regulation (EEC) 2826/77 introducing a community transit declaration form for use in an automatic or electronic data-processing system.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal* L92, 6 April 1978 contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 78/321/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to garments falling within heading 61.01, 61.02 or 61.03 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hungary and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/322/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to woven fabrics of jute or of other textile bast fibres falling within heading 57.03 of the common customs tariff and sacks and bags of a kind used for the packing of goods, of jute or of other textile bast fibres falling within heading or subheading ex 57.10 or 62.03 ex A, originating in Bangladesh and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/323/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to electrical measuring, checking, analysing or automatically controlling instruments and apparatus falling within heading 90.28 of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/324/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to clothing accessories and other articles (except outer garments and bathing costumes), knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised, falling within heading ex 60.05 or ex 60.06 of the common customs tariff, originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/325/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to shirts for men and boys, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/326/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to woven and knitted dresses for women, girls and infants, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 61.02B of the common customs tariff, originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Overseas trade news

ECGD backs largest-ever loan

A 390 million dollar loan, to help finance Hong Kong's newest power station, is being guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. This is the largest ever loan backed by ECGD.

The loan, which J. Henry Schroder Wagg, acting on its own behalf and for a syndicate of 16 banks, has made available to the Kowloon Electricity Supply Company (Kesco) of Hong Kong, will help finance a contract awarded to GEC Turbine Generators for the supply of 700 MW generating equipment and associated services for a new power station at Tap Shek Kok near Castle Peak, Hong Kong.

Eastern Energy, an affiliate of Esso and China Light and Power Co Ltd, who together have formed the new company Kesco, issued a letter of intent to GEC for the power station contract in January this year and the contract was signed in Hong Kong on 8 April.

Alan Williams (right) Minister of State at the Department of Industry, at the signing of the contract for the new Hong Kong power station on 8 April. Signing the contracts are (left to right) Robert Davidson, managing director GEC Turbine Generators; Roy Smith, managing director, Eastern Energy; and Sir Sidney Gordon, deputy chairman, China Light and Power.

Third Polish dollar loan guaranteed by ECGD . . .

The repayment and funding for a 30 million dollar line of credit for Poland is being guaranteed by ECGD.

The loan, which National Westminster Bank has made available to Bank Handlowy w Warzawie SA, will help finance contracts awarded by Polish buyers to UK exporters for the supply of UK produced chemicals and artificial fibres. Exporters will receive 85 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 15 per cent is payable from buyers' own resources.

To qualify under the terms of the loan a contract must have a minimum value of 120,000 dollars and be placed by April 1979.

Exporters interested in this facility should contact T. M. Anthony of ECGD, (01-606 6699 ext. 7574) or C. J. Cheesman of National Westminster Bank (01-588 6122 ext. 3370).

ECGD has now guaranteed three dollar lines of credit for Poland this year making a total value of 90 million dollars.

. . . and 100 ECGD bond guarantees issued

ECGD has issued 100 guarantees in support of bonds for export contracts since the scheme began three years ago. UK exports supported through the scheme total £1,400 million.

Of those issued some 80 per cent support contracts in the Middle East: notably in Saudi Arabia where 21 guarantees worth £107 million have been issued; Libya, with 17 worth £90 million; and Iran with nine worth £21 million. ECGD bond guarantees have been issued for exports to 22 markets.

Ellis Panton, head of the ECGD Project Division responsible for underwriting bond guarantees, said that since the bond scheme was introduced the department had given over 200 firm offers of cover in support of tenders for contracts totalling £3,000 million. On the strength of these offers, UK exporters had been able to compete for business confident in the knowledge that bond support would be available if needed. A further 55 cases totalling £2,500 million were currently being considered, he said.

ECGD bond support is available for export contracts worth £500,000 or more on cash or near-cash terms which are insured against normal credit risks.

ECGD does not itself provide the bonds, but gives support by means of an indemnity to a bank or surety company which is willing to issue the bonds. Under its indemnity ECGD is unconditionally liable to reimburse the bond-giver in full for the amount of any bond call.

British pavilion at Mid-East oil show

Bahrain will be the venue for the first Middle East oil show to be held from 25 to 29 March 1979. The Department of Trade will organise a British pavilion at this exhibition provided there is sufficient response from industry.

The Middle East has increased in importance for UK exporters, indicated by the doubling of Britain's exports to the region between 1973 and 1977.

The oil reserves of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE are expected to last well into the twenty first century and it is particularly important for UK companies to monitor and seek opportunities in the oil and gas sectors. Although the exploration and production facilities in the area are well developed, there is considerable scope for the provision of both production and exploration equipment with the emphasis possibly moving towards offshore development of both oil and gas. UK companies are well placed to provide both the appropriate hardware and expertise and the Middle East oil show will present an excellent opportunity for them to demonstrate this capability.

The closing date for applications is 25 May 1978 and further details, including costs and an application form for space, are available from G. M. Lyndsell, Room 115, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7314.

British technology on show in S. Korea

An all-British industrial and scientific technology exhibition, organised by the British Overseas Trade Board, will take place in Seoul, South Korea, from 5 to 10 June. A total of 47 companies will exhibit, supported by the BOTB in conjunction with the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers Association, the British Health-Care Export Council and the Gauge and Toolmakers Association.

Korean manufacturers and industrialists will see some of Britain's most advanced tech-

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ECGD cover for overseas fairs

As a supplement to the ordinary insurance policy exporters have with Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), cover is available for goods exhibited at fairs overseas against the rather special risks involved.

The standard cover includes sales at overseas fairs
Sales made at overseas fairs are covered under the standard ECGD policy against eventualities of loss, such as the insolvency of the buyer or his default, or exchange difficulties preventing transfer of payment from the buyer's country.

Special cover
Under a special policy supplementary to an exporter's main policy, ECGD can cover also the risks of loss arising while the goods are being exhibited or are on their way to be exhibited.

The risks covered are loss caused by destruction or damage resulting from war (including 'civil war, hostilities, rebellion and insurrection') occurring in the country where the goods are being exhibited or in a country through which the goods are travelling on their way to be exhibited,
or war between any of the countries involved,
or the requisition or confiscation of the goods in these countries,
or any measure or decision in the country where the goods are exhibited which prevents their re-export to the UK.

For more information about this special cover, get in touch with the nearest regional office of ECGD.

ECGD's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2. There are regional offices in:

Central London 01-437 2292 **North London** 01-808 4570 **South London** 01-686 9921 **Belfast** Belfast 31743 **Birmingham** 021-233 1771 **Bristol** Bristol 299971 **Cambridge** Cambridge 68801 **Glasgow** 041-332 8707 **Leeds** Leeds 450631 **Manchester** 061-228 3621

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nology in scientific instrumentation, medical equipment, special tooling, and metrology equipment. New products on show include a mass spectrometer – claimed to be the most powerful in the world; a semi-automated clinical chemistry system; a digital multimeter designed for both servicing and laboratory work; a radio-telephone test set; an ac signal analyser; aids for teaching engineering; and a fully automated surgical instrument washer, disinfector and dryer.

Alongside the exhibition, a seminar will be held and eight papers will be read on technical subjects related to the event.

The Korean government's policy is now to look towards western Europe to supply Korea's technological needs. Consequently the British exhibition will be a first-class opportunity of showing a wide range of equipment which Britain can supply.

Lord Chalfont to be president of UK trade fair in Mexico

Lord Chalfont, president of Canning House, has accepted an invitation to be president of the British industrial exhibition which is to take place in Mexico City from 8 to 17 November. Viscount Montgomery of Alamein CBE will be vice president of the exhibition.

Seventy-seven companies have already applied for stand space in the exhibition and their requirements account for almost 70 per cent of the space available.

Patrick Robinson, of International Trade Fairs, sales manager for the British industrial exhibition, said response so far has been good and the exhibition was well on target.

UK largest foreign exhibitor at Houston offshore fair

Britain will once again be the largest foreign exhibitor at the tenth annual Houston offshore technology conference and exhibition to be held from 8 to 11 May.

A total of 85 companies will take part – 28 for the first time – in a joint venture backed by the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the Association of British Oceanic Industries. In addition many firms will participate through their agents and some will exhibit on their holding companies' stands.

The British display will cover an extensive range of products and services used in the construction, operation and maintenance of offshore installations. Giant groups and small companies will demonstrate Britain's involvement in the production of oil and gas as well as their ability to provide a wide range of specialist skills for international exploration and production.

Many items featuring new developments will be shown for the first time including a battery-operated internal X-ray crawler which has already serviced over 3000 miles of land and marine pipeline; a casing surveyor used for accurate three-dimensional surveys of the position and alignment of production wells; scour prevention systems designed for the protection of offshore oil and gas pipelines; gas-flaring systems; models of offshore pedestal-mounted cranes; tubing; flame-proof electrical gear; models of gas turbines used by the oil industry both on and offshore; plug and ring gauges to all standards; underwater welding techniques and communication equipment.

In addition to the British participation at the exhibition, a trade mission of over 20 members, backed by the British Overseas Trade Board and arranged in collaboration with the Association of British Oceanic Industries, will be in Houston from 5 to 18 May.

Trade briefing on Hong Kong-UK's showcase in Asia

Hong Kong's governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, Lord Nelson of Stafford, chairman of GEC and Derek March, senior British trade commissioner, Hong Kong, will be speakers at a meeting on the opportunities for UK exporters in that booming market. The meeting will be chaired by John Browne, chairman of the Hong Kong trade advisory group of the British Overseas Trade Board, and held in the CBI council chamber, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1, on 26 April from 10 am until 1 pm.

The governor will outline current developments, growth, long-term prospects and the value of Hong Kong as a shop window. Lord Nelson will talk about opportunities for capital goods and Derek March will describe the changing trade scene, the use of agents in Hong Kong, and the services available from the British Overseas Trade Board. Roy Porter, deputy commissioner of industry, Hong Kong, will be available to answer any questions on industrial investment.

Hong Kong is the UK's third largest market in Asia – exporters grew by nearly 33 per cent in 1977. Hong Kong's economy is booming and there are considerable opportunities for capital and consumer product sales.

If you are interested in attending please tell Christine Prentice, CBI, 21 Tothill St, London SW1 tel. 01-930 6711 ext. 208. There will be no charge.

Thames Valley firms plan export attack

Export managers and directors from many firms in the Thames Valley region, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire, have agreed that a new attack on exports is needed and that the first step is to initiate sound agency agreements.

About 25 delegates from various manufacturing firms in the region attended the third export seminar organised by the Thames Valley Committee for Export United, High Wycombe.

William Anson, chairman of the committee and director of marketing studies at the Buckinghamshire College of Further Education, stressed that an agent should be looked upon as an extension of the company and must therefore have a good knowledge of the product and company policies. There was a constant need to motivate agents and a company had to be ready to help and assist. This could be achieved by regular visits, and by encouraging a two-way flow of information.

Other speakers included Dr E. P. Hibbert, director of college at the Institute of Marketing, and John Newcombe, training adviser for the Chemical and Allied Products Training Board.

Scots hear about Venezuela

Fifty leading Scottish exporters attended a meeting arranged by the Export Office for Scotland of the Scottish Economic Planning Department in Glasgow on 12 April, where they received up-to-date information and advice on trading opportunities in Venezuela.

Speakers were Ken Wetherell, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board's Latin American trade advisory group (Latag) and a director of the Shell International Petroleum Co; E. M. Lewis, a member of Latag and managing director of Atkins Planning civil construction consultants; Hal Owen of Commercial Relations and Exports Division of the Department of Trade; and W. M. Lang, formerly general manager of Reckitt and Coleman in Venezuela.

Disclosure of import information

Under the provisions of section 3 of the finance Act 1967 consideration is being given to the disclosure of import information in respect of the following goods

SITC(R)	Description	Tariff/ trade code number
715.1	Machine tools for working metal or metal carbides – Surface grinding	8445 3355 8445 3832 8445 4286 8445 4756

The government is consulting the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 6-14 Dean Farrar Street, London SW1H 0DX, on these proposals and the association will take into account any views received from importers by 19 May 1978.

Inquiries may be addressed to Economics and Statistics Division 5, Branch B2, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET tel. 01-215 5770.

Chamber to sponsor Japan heat show

A group of companies is being sponsored by The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce at the combustion and heat treatment equipment exhibition, which will be held at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo, from 5 to 9 December.

For further details contact Miss S. Cooper, Westminster Chamber of Commerce, 177 Regent Street, London W1R 8DJ, tel. 01-734 2851, telex 268312.

Common Fund: group B proposals basis for negotiation – Dell

The UK stands by its commitment to a common fund to help both producers and consumers of primary commodities, said Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, on 13 April.

Presiding at a two-day meeting of Commonwealth ministers organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat at Marlborough House to discuss the fund, he said that there had to be realism about the kind of common fund that a wide range of countries, both developed and developing, would be able to accept.

In November last year, at the last session of United Nations conference on trade and development (Unctad) common fund conference, the UK had joined other developed countries – the so-called group B countries – in putting forward specific proposals on 'the aims and modalities of the fund'.

Mr Dell made three points about the group B proposals:

☐ They offered solid advantages to producing and consuming countries alike. The whole approach was designed to facilitate the financing of new commodity agreements.

☐ They went beyond the mechanics of the fund. It was central to the group B conception of the fund that the UK and other importing countries would be ready to shoulder their share of the cost of new buffer stocks whether financed through levies on trade or through direct government contribution.

☐ The developed countries hoped that the proposals would be accepted as a constructive attempt to give reality to the fund and would become a basis for serious negotiations.

'I stress the word negotiation,' Mr Dell said, 'which must mean movement on all sides. We, for our part, see the scheme as a starting point for discussion, certainly not as a last word. The immediate question however is how to get negotiations on the fund restarted following their suspension at the end of last year.'

Mr Dell continued that it was crucial that when negotiations on the fund resumed they should make real progress. 'We for our part have made proposals and stand ready to negotiate. We hope that others will negotiate too. We want to see the Unctad conference resume as soon as a basis for progress exists.

'This in turn requires, I believe, a degree of realism about the kind of common fund which a wide range of countries both developed and developing will be able to accept,' he said, 'I recognise that any such fund will be more limited initially than some countries would wish.'

It would be limited, but workable, he said, and a workable common fund which could actually be established was worth any number of ambitious but impracticable schemes that never got off the ground. 'No one can say how a new institution like the fund might evolve and develop over time. But one thing is certain; an institution that does not exist cannot evolve.'

Clothing workshop in export techniques

More than 40 companies in the clothing manufacturing industry in the north west attended an export workshop organised by the regional office of the British Overseas Trade Board in Manchester on 13 April.

The would-be exporters heard how a Queen's award clothing company broke into the overseas market and what was needed to maintain the momentum of a successful export drive. The success story was told by Brian Mackerness of the Manchester company H. L. Mackerness, which tripled its overseas sales during a three-year period and won the Queen's Award last year.

Delegates were also given advice on financial know-how from a Manchester bank manager, on expertise in transporting goods all over the world from Ocean Transport and Trading of Liverpool, and heard a good deal of common-sense from the Manchester chamber of commerce.

Martin Hedge, who directs BOTB activities in the region, said the response to the export workshop had been excellent. He told the potential exporters what government help was available and also chaired the discussion.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Birmingham chamber's mission to Gabon and Cameroon . . .

Birmingham's chamber of industry and commerce is organising an outward mission to Gabon and Cameroon-countries not ordinarily visited by missions from 24 September to 4 October.

Gabon, though a small country, has had a considerable revenue from oil and although like other countries it is cutting back on expenditure there is still a considerable market for capital equipment and consumer goods.

Cameroon is an expanding mineral resources market although it is currently dependent on agriculture.

Birmingham chamber says that this could also be an opportunity for businessmen visiting the more established markets of Nigeria and the Ivory Coast to take advantage of the mission before proceeding to Nigeria at the end of the mission at little or no extra cost.

Further information can be obtained from Mr T. L. Edgar, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PO Box 360, 75 Harborne Road, Birmingham B15 3DH.

. . . and to Czechoslovakia and Japan

The Birmingham chamber is also organising missions to Czechoslovakia and to Japan later this year.

Applications are being invited for the Czechoslovak mission, which leaves the UK on 29 October, returning the following Friday, 3 November.

The chamber says that Czechoslovakia has generated perhaps the highest standard of living within Comecon. It points out that there are opportunities for British exporters in the fields of capital equipment and technology, machine-tool production, control instrumentation and data processing, high-class electronics, chemicals and petrochemical production, in addition to equipment for producing a whole range of industrial and consumer goods, packaging and food processing.

The chamber's Japanese mission, its final trade mission during 1978, will be from 24 November to 8 December.

Those taking part will each qualify for a £505 grant towards their travel costs from the British Overseas Trade Board.

In a message welcoming the Birmingham chamber's initiative in sponsoring this mission, Mr E. J. Field, special adviser on Japan to the BOTB, reminds UK firms that British exports to Japan rose in value by nearly 31 per cent in 1977. The Japanese government has adopted a target growth of 7 per cent for 1978 – one of the highest among the industrialised nations of the world.

Information on both the above missions can be obtained from the Overseas Department, the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, PO Box 360, 75 Harborne Road, Birmingham B15 3DH, tel. 021-454 6171.

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement, 1978

The following companies have received the Queen's award for a substantial and sustained increase in export earnings to a level which is outstanding for the product or service concerned.

A. and J. (Staples) Ltd
A.E. Autoparts Ltd
AGA Navigation Aids Ltd
The Cryogenic Systems Division of Air Products Ltd
Alginate Industries Ltd
Aljose Fashions Ltd
Anco Productions (Portsmouth) Ltd
Arto Chemicals Ltd
The Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd
B and W Loudspeakers Ltd
Balfour Beatty Ltd
Bearings (Non-Lube) Ltd
Blacks of Greenock Ltd
Bland Payne Holdings Ltd
Booker Agriculture International Ltd
Boythorpe Cropstores Ltd
Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co Ltd
Braithwaite and Co Structural Ltd
British Steel Corporation (Overseas Services) Ltd
David Brown Tractors Ltd
Frans Buitelaar Ltd
Camrex Ltd
Carnation Foods Co Ltd
Hamish Cathie Travel Scotland Ltd
Clan Laird Fashions Scotland Ltd
Conference Services Ltd
Conoco Ltd
The Magnetic Media Manufacturing Division of Control Data Ltd
Coronet EM Ltd
Costain International Ltd
DJB Engineering Ltd
Davies Turner and Co Ltd
Michael Davis (Shipping) Ltd
Dawson-Keith Electric Ltd
Thomas De La Rue and Co Ltd
Dundee Fabrics Ltd
Eilers and Wheeler (UK) Ltd
Elcometer Instruments Ltd
Electrosonic Ltd
Elliott Turbomachinery Ltd
The international division of EMI Records Ltd
The clay division of English China Clays Ltd
Every Ready Co (Holdings) Ltd
Ewbank and Partners Ltd
Farrow Irrigation Ltd
The pharmaceutical division of Fisons Ltd
Flogates Ltd
Forest Thinnings Ltd
GEC Measurements Ltd
General Instrument Microelectronics Ltd
Glenhill Furnishing Ltd
W. R. Grace Ltd
Grest Exports Ltd
Gunson's Sortex Ltd
William Hare Ltd
C. E. Heath and Co Ltd
Hestair Dennis Ltd
L. B. Holliday and Co Ltd
The aviation division of Alexander Howden Insurance Brokers Ltd
International Aeradio Ltd
International Aviation Services (UK) Ltd
International Generics Ltd
Invicta Plastics Ltd
J. K. Lasers Ltd
James Johnston and Co of Elgin Ltd
Justerini and Brooks Ltd
Kangol Wear Ltd
Kodak Ltd
Kwikform Ltd
Mabey and Johnson Ltd
Magnetic Components Ltd
Marconi Avionics Ltd
Medelec Ltd
Minet Holdings Ltd
The hydrographic department of the Ministry of Defence
Royal Ordnance Factories, Ministry of Defence
A. H. Moody and Son Ltd
Alan Newman Ltd
Ogdens (Otley) Ltd
The Pacific Steam Navigation Co
Frederick Parker Ltd
Petter Power Generation Ltd
The electronic exchange division of Plessey Telecommunications Ltd
Portakabin Ltd
The Pullman Kellogg division of Pullman Incorporated in the United Kingdom
Ratsey and Lapthorn Ltd
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd
Royal Doulton Tableware Ltd
Ruston Gas Turbines Ltd
SGB Export Ltd
The Serck Glocon division of Serck Audco-Valves International
Sheerness Steel Co Ltd
Shetland Boats Ltd
Shubette of London Ltd
Simon-Hartley Ltd
Simon-Vicars Ltd
The Link-Miles division of The Singer Co (UK) Ltd
Hugh Smith (Glasgow) Ltd
Solent Canners Ltd
South Wales Switchgear Ltd
Space Decks Ltd
John Taylor and Sons
Transportation Systems and Market Research Ltd
Tufting Industries Ltd
UBM Overseas Ltd
White Horse Distillers Ltd
Wiggins Teape Ltd

Mini-computers improve shipping document processing

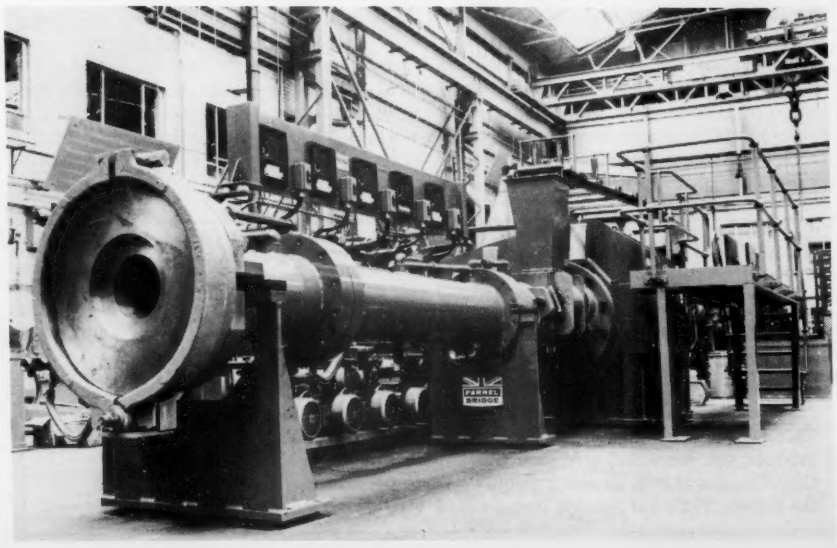
New systems which could save British industry approximately £90 million a year are described in a study published on 4 April by management consultants, Harbridge House Europe. The systems are designed to improve processing of shipping documentation.

The benefit of new investment in more efficient ships and ports has until recently been reduced by the inefficiencies of slow and expensive paperwork. However, this unsatisfactory position has been very much improved over the last two years by standardisation of documents, acceptance of mini-computers, and the development of packaged systems.

The study, which has just been completed by Harbridge House Europe and Christopher Voss of the London Graduate School of Business Studies, identifies 10 firms offering computerised shipping documentation systems. It evaluates these systems and describes the savings in time and money which should follow from their use. 'The Use of Computers for Processing Shipping Documentation', is available from Harbridge House Europe, 180 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9LE, price £15.00.

First Farrel Bridge 10-in rubber extruder

Farrel Bridge's first ever 10-inch, cold-feed rubber extruder. Destined for Yugoslavia, the machine is for Rekord-Rakovica and will be used for producing tyre tread from natural and synthetic stocks. Based on the NRM Plastiscrew model the 10-inch extruder line forms a complete 36-inch wide tread production system, fitted with its own variable speed dc drive unit and a special roller sheet feed mechanism which can handle full-width slabs from the roller die.



India spells out its 'shopping list'

During Secretary of State for Trade, Edmund Dell's visit to India from 12 to 17 March, officials on both sides made a detailed examination of the list of industrial products that the government of India gave Prime Minister James Callaghan when he visited India in January. The Indian side provided a lot of detail in these discussions. However, no further information on individual items is available in the UK and British suppliers, in association with their Indian agents/representatives, should get in touch with the Indian contact points mentioned in each case. For some items, Indian public sector organisations already have technical links with UK or other foreign manufacturers, but this does not necessarily rule out offers from other parties.

India's import licensing policy, which came into effect on 1 April 1978 (see *Trade and Industry*, 14 April, page 77), incorporates significant relaxations over a wide range of requirements. Details should be available soon through Department of Trade's Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR).

Power generation equipment

The main Indian requirement for increased power generation will be through thermal power stations in the 200 MW and 500 MW range. Gas-turbine power generation is therefore seen only as a 'fuel expensive' stop-gap for certain areas during the next five years. The gas-turbine stations will be used for peak-load capacity thereafter. Efficiency of fuel use is therefore an important factor in the choice of turbines and the preference is for the larger 60 MW turbines and for industrial turbines rather than aero-derivative.

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) already produce steam turbines and have technical links with a UK manufacturer. They are expressing an interest in the possibility of manufacturing the chosen gas turbines on a long-term basis; however this could conflict with the Indian view that gas-turbine use generally in India may be a short-term business.

☐ UK companies should make initial contact with Mr M. R. Kulkarni, the Central Electricity Authority Ltd, West Block VIII Rama Krishnapuram, New Delhi 110022, and advise Mr A. F. Couto, Joint Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi 110011.

Diesel alternators 1100 kVA and above

Previous size restrictions on these sets are now being lifted by the Indian government. Initiatives are expected fromt the Indian private sector.

☐ UK firms should make direct contact with Indian companies and advise Mr Couto.

Transformers of high capacity

In this case the clients will be the 20 state electricity boards. The Indian side commented that, judged by recent offers, UK firms would have to improve upon price and delivery.

☐ UK firms should contact the boards, BHEL, Hindustan Times House, 18-20 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi 110001, and initiate general discussions with Mr Couto.

Locomotive traction units

Electric and diesel-electric traction units are produced in India by BHEL who already have a technical link with a UK firm. Nevertheless, the Indians estimated that current railway expansion plans will result in something like a 40 per cent short-fall in BHEL capacity. This could mean between 40 and 50 locomotive traction units to be imported either wholly or in part.

Integrated buses and airport buses

The Indian side said that it was proposed to import a few integrated buses to assess their suitability for operation under Indian conditions and to evaluate the cost benefit ratio, particularly in the context of the much higher initial cost of the integral bus in relation to the conventional type of bus manufactured in India (ie, built on a lorry chassis).

If studies found that integral buses were economical for use under Indian conditions, manufacturing facilities would be established. Hyderabad Allwyn Metal Works Ltd, Sanatnagar, Hyderabad 18, had been identified by the Indians as the agency for this purpose. The Indian side pointed out that Hyderabad Allwyn would be manufacturing only the integral bodies and would obtain engines, transmission and axles from Ashok Leyland. The Indians stated that the engine used would be important and pointed out that production of Perkins, Cummins and Leyland engines took place in India.

Chassis for fire crash tenders

There is an immediate need for the purchase of complete units, but the longer-term intention is for manufacture in India, whereby foreign chassis could be supplied to manufacturers in India to build up ancillary equipment such as the tank and pumps.

☐ The International Airports Authority of India, 32 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi 110001, is the purchasing authority. In all cases UK firms should keep in touch with Mr Couto.

Raw materials, components, capital equipment and spares for manufacture of power-generating equipment

UK firms should contact BHEL about goods in the list below.

Thermal power plant components (120 MW set and others)

Completely wound and balanced TG rotor; governors and governor assemblies; automatic gland sealing valve; load-limiting switches; castings (steam castings etc); forgings (shafts etc); capital goods; spares; mill base, gear housing, grinding rolls, worm gear etc; insulators, oil system components etc.

Hydro power plant components:

Wound stator; shaft and spider assembly; top bracket; castings; forgings.

Steel:

Seamless steel tubes; drum plates; high-tensile steel.

Miscellaneous items:

Silver bearing copper; aluminium; brass tubes; seamless steel pipes; springs; pressure switches; valves; pumps; transformer components.

Steel

India had placed orders in the UK for tin plates, ferro alloys, and cold rolled steel. These imports could be stepped up provided UK prices and delivery were competitive.

☐ The Steel Authority of India Ltd, Hindustan Times House, 18-20 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi 110001.

Earth-moving equipment

The Indian side tabled a list of requirements as shown below. The first figure in brackets is the immediate requirement, the second figure, in italics, is the requirement for the next two years.

☐ The lead Indian organisation is the Central Water Commission, Bikaner House, New Delhi 110011, and the specific contact is the chief engineer, Mr A. S. Kurpad. Mr Couto should also be kept informed:

Tunnelling equipment (0 *6*); truck-mounted cranes, 60-70 tons (0 *7*); batching plant, 160 cu yd (0 *2*); 295-300 hp tractor-dozers, with rippers (60 *87*); twin-engine scrapers, 16 m^3 (30 *45*); motorised scrapers, 23 m^3 (20 *74*); battery-operated mining locos, 10-20 tons, rail (0 *4*); front-end loaders, 6-7 cu yd (10 *21*); vibratory compactors, 10-12 ton dual-load capacity (0 *17*); truck tractors, 50-60 ton capacity (0 *8*); grout pumps (not known).

Fishing trawlers and marine equipment

During the next five years, Indian trawler requirements are likely to be: up to 30 m long 300; between 30 and 45 m long 85; over 45 m long (eg factory trawlers) 60.

Although the Department of Heavy Industry considers Indian shipyards to be capable of meeting these requirements, the Indians indicated that there may be scope for technical co-operation with local yards as an alternative to selling complete trawlers to fleet operators.

On marine equipment, the Indian side specified navigation equipment, fish finding equipment, special fishing equipment, refrigeration equipment, special pumps for engine rooms and some engines. Mr Couto welcomed the prospect of an early mission representing the UK trawlerbuilding industry.

Specialised machine tools

The Indian side indicated that there was scope for the import of machine tools from UK firms, particularly metal-working machines, high-technology machines, horizontal boring machines of higher capacity, specialised production machines, for example machines for bearing industries, and toolroom precision machines. During the next five years, the requirements for imported machine tools would be substantial in view of the emphasis given on replacement and modernisation programmes in several sectors of industry in India. Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd had surveyed these requirements and had agreed to identify the imported machine tools required so that a package of services could be offered to the Indian customer. HMT had therefore surveyed the requirements of railway workshops and had identified several types of machine

tools that could be imported from the UK.
□ Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd (HMT), 36 Cunningham Road, Bangalore, 560052, informing Mr Couto of progress.

Large-capacity refrigerated vans and inert-atmosphere, cold storage plant
The Indians stated that there was a need for direct imports and also for technology relating to large-capacity refrigerated transport vans. They were interested in utilising the technology for the local manufacture of inert-atmosphere, cold-storage plant that would provide essential support to their commercial refrigeration industry.

Mr Couto would be interested in hearing from UK firms.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1676: Textiles from Mexico – continuation of transitional arrangements

Notice to importers 1649, *Trade and Industry*, 6 January 1978, and 1674, *Trade and Industry*, 14 April 1978, stated *inter alia* that on 1 April 1978 Mexico would begin administration of the quotas established under the EEC/Mexico textile agreement.

Mexico has however now requested that its transitional period be extended to 1 July 1978, and the transitional arrangements set out in notice to importers 1649 will therefore continue to apply to goods shipped before 1 July 1978, up to a total of 65 per cent of each quota level.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 367.

Amendment to NTI 1674

In the following extracts from annex B to NTI 1674, '(IL)' should be inserted in the second column.

Taiwan
'of which, not more than 2 tonnes 51'

Yugoslavia
'of which, not more than 2 tonnes 133'

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842 or 01-215 5879.

Overseas trade exhibitions

Kilts on the wane in Germany

From D. T. Cox, British consulate-general, Munich
Fifty British companies took part in the thirty-seventh Munich fashion week held between 2 and 6 April. Thirty of these exhibited in a joint venture between the Clothing Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board. In addition, four of six companies taking part in an exhibit by the Selincourt group received joint-venture assistance.

The overall British participation took fifth place behind West Germany, France, Italy and Austria.

The fair authorities claim that some 43 000 visitors were attracted to this Mode Woche, about 3000 less than at this time last year and 7000 less than for the October 1977 event.

The British joint venture occupied its usual site of 660 m^2 and the Selincourt group an adjacent 150 m^2 in hall 7. Although volume of traffic in the halls reflected the relatively low attendance figures, most exhibitors reported a level of firm orders and potential business sufficient to have justified their participation, having both consolidated existing contacts and established new ones.

As with all spring fairs, the furriers were out in strength, Fantasia Furs and M. Edelson Ltd, among others, showing a very healthy return for their efforts. F. J. Bacon, Clan Crest, Dalkeith and Clan Laird report signs that the popular boom in kilts of recent years is now coming to an end, although a good basic demand for the classical product still exists.

Windsor Leatherware continues to excel by showing exclusively men's garments at this basically womenswear-oriented fair. Crochetta (knitwear), Cojana International (coats/suits), and Lillygould (blouses and co-ordinates) all consolidated and benefited by the good reputation they have built up through previous attendances in Munich.

The Selincourt group made an impressive beginning to the southern German-part of their attack on the FRG market.

A most professional fashion show (the only one of its kind in hall 7) held four times daily, attracted good crowds throughout the fair and, whether or not this public interest is reflected in subsequent orders, Selincourt take the positive attitude of having learned much from its initial appearance here which will serve the company well for the future.

Without the benefit of final details, it was particularly apparent that the dresses and separates of Frank Usher, one of the four Selincourt firms with joint-venture support, were attracting considerable interest from buyers throughout the week.

The next Munich Mode Woche takes place between 1 and 5 October 1978.

Water-beds win at Swedish medical fair

From D. Harrison, British embassy, Stockholm
This year's international medical care exhibition (Isima) held in Malmö, from 4 to 7 April, proved to be quite successful for the 13 British companies exhibiting on the joint venture stand co-sponsored by the British Health-Care Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board. Many other British companies exhibited separately with their Swedish agents.

There were 300 exhibitors from 17 different countries including South Africa and Taiwan. The British stand was very well situated in one of the busiest halls opposite the Swedish County Councils'-owned Landstingens Inköps-central (LIC) stand which attracted easily the most interest at the exhibition.

Isima is aimed mainly at the hospital administrators and the nurses rather than the doctors, and to help attract them no fewer than 17 conferences and courses were simultaneously going on in the adjacent conference halls during the four days. Because of the general nature of the exhibition, the absence of several leading Swedish manufacturers and agents, like Aga, Stille Werner and Siemens Elema, which only had a very small information stand, was noticeable.

Of the British exhibitors no fewer than five were seeking representation in Sweden and all these companies obtained good contacts during the exhibition.

The busiest British stand was Western Medical which was exhibiting, among other things, its water-bed. Western Medical was one of the companies looking for an agent and the firm appointed LIC, which actually bought its stand and gave Western Medical an advance order for 25 more beds worth approximately £12,500.

Although it is difficult to assess the amount of potential business done at medical exhibitions in Sweden – Western Medical is an exception as LIC is such a large agency company that it can buy for stock because of its centralised purchasing policy for each county – most of the companies were happy at the level of inquiries.

Courtaulds Careerwear, in particular, was happy with the exhibition and Remploy Ltd, which exhibited its range of walking aids and rehabilitation equipment, achieved some minor sales off the stand.

Overseas trade export services

BA provides new opportunities for cargo . . .

New summer schedules introduced by British Airways provide new routes, an expansion of wide-bodied services on both European and international services, and the start of Concorde's blue-riband supersonic Mach Two cargo service to America. This is a scheduled supersonic service which will speed extremely urgent documents, ships' spares and contracts across the Atlantic between Britain and New York or Washington.

Also being introduced is BA's Rolls-Royce powered Boeing 747 which is providing a new daily service to San Francisco and also to Los Angeles, New York, Australia and New Zealand, in addition to existing services to Johannesburg.

The Rolls-Royce engined 747 began operating to Australasia on 2 April and at first will operate four of the 10 weekly services in British Airways' new summer schedule. By late June it will be flying daily to Australia.

On two of these days, Wednesday and Saturday, the Rolls 747 continues to New Zealand.

Other 747s, released by introducing the Rolls-Royce powered aircraft, will now transfer to new routes giving a completely new service to Osaka, Japan, and the first 747s to Antigua and Mexico City. They will also be used to give wide-bodied service to all 10 American and two Canadian destinations.

Also because of the new 747, those serving Hong Kong will no longer go on to Australia, and payloads can be further improved now airlines can once again overfly Vietnam.

Other longhaul improvements include a new service to Kilimanjaro, more flights to Cairo, Khartoum and Dar es Salaam, the continuation of the highly successful British Airways/Japan Air Lines freighter, and a special express parcels service from America to Britain.

Changes in en-route calls on Far East services offer Dusseldorf-Tehran, Rome-Bangkok, Frankfurt-Kuala Lumpur and Dubai-Hong Kong routes.

Up to five 747s a week from Manchester to north America and up to seven from Prestwick will give regional exporters the opportunity to ship containerised and loose freight direct.

In Europe the TriStar, which can carry containers, will fly to Dusseldorf and Cyprus for the first time and will also serve Tel Aviv, Malta, Athens, Madrid and Copenhagen.

A new direct service starts from Heathrow to Stavanger, oil capital of Norway, and there are increases in the frequency of flights to Bilbao, Vienna, Lyon, Lisbon, Oporto and Munich. An extra Merchantman freighter will fly to Frankfurt, giving it five services every week.

Direct services from Gatwick to Europe have already started on the fast-growing Zurich route and will soon be available to Frankfurt, Dusseldorf and Dublin.

New direct services start from Glasgow to Paris, Copenhagen and Milan; from Manchester to Zurich; and from Birmingham to Milan.

BA is also making changes as the ground improvements in Terminal 3 at Heathrow will, claims BA, ease congestion and improve punctuality for freight as well as passengers.

The airline is spending £1.8 million on a fleet of brand new cargo container-carrying vehicles and is also investing substantially in new containers.

A new quick-response telephone exchange is being installed at London's Cargocentre. In the provinces, truck connections, especially on the Glasgow route, are being improved and through-pallets to and from Europe are being introduced. The new cargo terminals at Aberdeen and Gatwick will be fully operational.

Further information: circle 551

. . . like lobsters

Among the innovations in the summer schedules are wide-bodied services to and from Antigua in the West Indies and to and from Dusseldorf. Now a regular weekly through-container will bring up to 500 kg of live lobsters via London.

The lobsters arrive at Heathrow on Wednesdays on the BA 250, the Antigua service operated this year for the first time by a Boeing 747. They touch down at 12.35 pm and are transferred to the 4.50 pm Dusseldorf flight, BE 750, a new TriStar service. They reach the German city at 6 pm . . . in prime condition for dinner.

Further information: circle 552

Cyprus groupage service inaugurated

International Express of Birmingham has inaugurated direct container groupage services to Cyprus. For Midlands shippers in particular, the company says, substantial savings can be effected on fob charges. Through freight rates on a commodity tariff are inclusive from UK terminals to Limassol port.

Cargo can be received at either of the company's depots at Elmdon, Birmingham and Camley Street, London, where it is containerised for shipping by Conference Line sailings. Orphanides and Murat, in Cyprus, break bulk and strip the containers to deliver cargo throughout the island. Customs clearance is offered by the company's head office next to the new Limassol port complex, and its subsidiary branches at Nicosia and Larnaca.

Further information: circle 553

Groupage service provides 24-hour London-Paris link

A 24-hour, depot-to-depot delivery is part of a new London to Paris groupage service set up by MAT International of London.

MAT is operating this service in association with Bansard International S.A., which has a special, privately-operated customs depot at Rungis, a suburb of Paris. With this facility, Bansard can ensure rapid customs clearance and delivery to all parts of Paris. The company also provides warehousing space.

This service uses driver-accompanied 12-m tilt trailers. Cargo will be consolidated at MAT's own depot at the London international freight terminal.

Further information: circle 554

ACE introduces direct groupage to Abidjan

Starting 27 April, African Container Express (ACE) is introducing a groupage service from Glasgow, Liverpool and London to Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The containers will be shipped by the recently expanded UK-West Africa Lines (Ukwal) direct service to Abidjan, scheduled to sail every 10 days from UK ports.

ACE says that by using this new direct ser-

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

EEC information

Free service for businessmen! The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.
New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

vice shippers can avoid the difficulties of transhipment and the problems of damage and pilferage endemic to the west African trade. The new direct Abidjan groupage service is just the first step in a series of developments which will be announced in the coming months.

Further information: circle 555

Same-day dispatch from Carryfast

Scheduled departures are to be guaranteed from June in a new groupage service – 'Euro-Shuttle' – by Carryfast International Ltd which is part of SPD International.

Carryfast claims that market research pointed to the need for a service providing 'speed on the ground' in the dispatch of goods: airfreight, says the company, is often preferred to groupage, not for speed of delivery, but because of the handling service it provides.

Euro-Shuttle has been developed to provide a similar 'instant dispatch' service by road. It will operate via Carryfast's UK network, which has 15 daily linked depots and 350 vehicles, initially to Milan, Turin and Holland and later to Switzerland and Ireland.

A call before 11.00, says the company, or delivery into Heathrow, Manchester, Droitwich or Dewsbury, will ensure the same-day despatch of goods. Unlike normal groupage, despatch will not depend on the availability of a full load and, if necessary, a standby vehicle will be brought in.

Carryfast has not yet published its tariff for Euro-Shuttle, but rates are expected to be somewhere between those now available for airfreight and normal groupage.

Further information: circle 556

New link to South Africa

Lep Transport's departure points for its fortnightly container groupage to Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg are now Lep London and, instead of Lep Liverpool, Lep Sheffield.

From either departure point the rates offered compare very favourably with those offered by both conference and non-conference consolidators.

Receiving points for cargo are Lep's Charlton Freight Depot, London SE7, and Grenoside Depot, Sheffield, respectively.

Further information: circle 557

Red Sea service

A new export cargo-liner service to the Red Sea ports of Aqaba, Jeddah, Jizan and Port Sudan started last week from the Humber port of Hull. Operated by Ocean Carriers Red Sea Service, the service has a frequency of one sailing every three weeks to the Middle East ports concerned.

Further information: circle 558

Briefly . . .

Turin Groupage. Lep Transport, Birmingham, has introduced a new weekly groupage service direct to Turin. It departs from Lep Birmingham's Garretts Green Freight Depot on Mondays and arrives in Turin on Thursdays. **Further information: circle 562**

Sea routes extended. Aquitaine Maritime Agencies (Ireland) Ltd now offers regular sailings to the Indian sub-continent in addition to its services to north Africa east, the Mediterranean, Black Sea, Red Sea, Gulf, west Africa and the Caribbean. **(563)**

New trailers. Anchor Global Transport has purchased 20, 10 m tilt trailers as part of an expansion of its express groupage and full load trailer services to Nigeria. **(564)**

Malta link. The first sailing of a new general cargo service from Lowestoft to Valleta, Malta, is expected to take place on 5 May. The service, from the British Transport Docks Board's port, is being operated by the Deutsche Melita Anglia Line and will run on a three-weekly basis initially, increasing to fortnightly later. Vessels will carry export general cargo which will be partly containerised. **(565)**

Transport company. The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, with Liverpool-based commodity brokers Norco Ltd, has formed a new transport consortium, Norco Transport Ltd. Customers are offered a package deal service, providing transport from door to ship. **(566)**

New publication. On 10 April, the first issue of Lloyd's loading list, continental edition, was published. It is a weekly directory of cargo services by sea, road, air and rail from continental ports and inland depots, which contains loading departure information. **(567)**

Booked. Davies Turner has launched a new service for the book trade, offering an all-inclusive 25p per kg rate for books. The service gives a door-to-door service from the company's terminal to delivered consignee premises in Johannesburg. Import duty, charged generally at the rate of 15 per cent of the value of the consigment, is additional. **(568)**

Now LCL to Umm Qasr

Following the inauguration of a full-container load service to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, Medtainer Line can now accept less-than-container-load traffic for the same destination.

The port of Umm Qasr, at the northern end of the Gulf, is fully equipped to handle containerised traffic and is ideally situated as a port of entry for all the inland markets of Iraq. By going directly to Umm Qasr, where consignees will have to clear their goods, shippers will be able to avoid all the inherent complications of overland transportation to Iraq through other countries.

Further information: circle 559

EITB sets up export consultancy service

An export and consultancy service, set up by the Engineering Industry Training Board, has a twofold aim. First, the service aims to provide a range of training advice and assistance to help British engineering firms secure and perform overseas contracts for products and services.

The assistance, EITB says, can cover possible needs for training British staff, foreign staff and, in some cases, customers' staff, the training being carried out in this country or abroad.

Second, the service will provide specialised training advice and assistance to foreign governments and firms where such aid seems likely to create a favourable climate for the use of British engineering products and services abroad.

The service will be financed by charging customers a fee.

Further information: circle 560

In-place foam protects fragile goods

Using Solidifoam, a new foam-in-place process by Tri-Wall Containers to protect ultra fragile products such as glassware, ceramics and precision instruments and difficult shaped products. A controlled shot of Solidifoam from a specially-designed gun is dispensed into the bottom of a container. A sheet of polyethylene film is laid on the foam and the product placed on top as the foam expands. A second sheet of polyethylene covers the product, a second shot of foam is dispensed and the container closed and sealed. The foam expands to 100 times its volume in less than 40 seconds completely encapsulating and protecting the product in the process.

Further information: circle 561

Overseas trade country data

Antigua

Consumption tax. The Antigua authorities have announced amendments to the consumption tax schedules. A new rate of 7 per cent of the value of the goods has been established for wines, spirits, and cigarettes classified under tariff no. 22.04, 22.05, 22.06, 22.07, ex 22.09 and ex 24.02. The existing rates of consumption tax remain unchanged but amendments have been made to certain products subject to the tax. These products are classified under tariff no. 22.03, 22.08, 22.09, 22.10, 27.10, 27.11, 27.14, and 27.16.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Australia

Undergarments, sleepwear. The Australian Department of Industry and Commerce has received a request for temporary protection against the import into Australia of undergarments and knitted sleepwear falling within tariff items 60.04.2, 60.04.6, 61.03.3, 61.03.4 and 61.04.4.

Requests for temporary protection are initially considered by the department concerned and at a later date they may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority (TAA) for inquiry and report within 30 days of the date of reference. Any temporary protection that may be accorded goods of local manufacture on the recommendation of the TAA would be in the nature of a holding action pending government consideration of the long-term protection of the local industry. Interested parties who wish to make their views known on this application for temporary assistance should send their comments to reach the Department of Industry and Commerce Canberra PO Box 80 ACT 2600 not later than 21 April.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 893/78

Certain wool worsted and wool blend yarns. The Australian government has introduced tariff quotas from 1 March 1978 on imports of wool worsted yarns – tariff item 53.07.910 and wool blend yarns – tariff item 56.05.310. The introduction of tariff quotas on these yarns is in accordance with the government's announcement of 17 November 1977 that tariff quotas would be introduced should imports over a progressive 12-month period exceed 1.3 million kg for three consecutive months.

This level has been exceeded for the 12-month periods ended 31 December 1977, 31 January 1978 and 28 February 1978.

The annual quota level for these yarns is 1.1 million kg with an additional duty of $2.50 per kg for above quota imports and the base period for individual importers' tariff quota entitlements will be the 12 months period ending 30 November 1977.

Initial quota allocations will be for the six months period beginning 1 March 1978 and will have a validity of 12 months.

Furthermore, 15 per cent of the six months equivalent of the quota level for these yarns is being reserved for cases involving anomalies.

Inquiries: OTAR 10-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Importation of fishing vessels. The Australian government has announced that the ban on the import of second-hand fishing vessels has been lifted allowing imports of up to 20 vessels, each for a period of five years, from 12 April 1978 to 31 March 1980.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Ref.CRE 863/77

Works trucks. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 31 March, reported that the Industries Assistance Commission's inquiry into the question of protection for work trucks with a lifting capacity of 1500 kg to 3999 kg (tariff item 87.07.190) was scheduled to commence on 11 April.

It was recently announced that the reference which the IAC considered was amended to embrace mobile machines incorporating elevating masts to which forks, buckets, tines and the like are normally attached (tariff items 84.22.5 and 84.22.9).

The IAC is due to present the report of the inquiry to the government by 12 January 1979.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 516/78

Sheet steel. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 31 March, reported that the Australian government had received a request for temporary protection against the imports of:

Uncoated hot rolled steel sheets and plates (including coils) not exceeding 3.2 mm thickness of a kind falling within item 73.13.100;

Uncoated cold rolled steel sheets and plate (including coils) of a kind falling within item 73.13.100;

Galavanised steel sheets, plates, strips and hoops (including coils and corrugated forms) of a kind falling within item 73.12.190 or 73.13.300;

Terne alloy-coated steel sheets and plates (including coils) of a kind falling within item 73.13.200.

The government has now referred the matter to the Temporary Assistance Authority (TAA) for inquiry and report. The public inquiry will be held in the public inquiry room, Industries Assistance Commission Building, Kings Avenue, Barton, ACT. Persons intending to submit evidence to the inquiry are requested to forward three copies to the TAA at PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600, prior to 26 April; the telex address of the authority is INDCOM 62283.

Evidence may be submitted direct to the TAA or through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned; alternatively it may be submitted through the Australia–British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, tel. 01-930 2524 which will represent UK firms' interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of the submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 517/78

Austria

Tariff amendments. The following amendments have been made to the Austrian tariff:

1 CCCN no. 22.09D. Goods of this heading containing egg, egg yolk or sugar (saccharose or invert sugar) have a duty of A.Sc. 3000 per 100 kg (previously A.Sc. 2000 per 100 kg).

2 CCCN no. 87.02C. Motor buses.
The VAT rate for motor buses is now 18 per cent (previously 30 per cent).

3 CCCN no. 90.07B2. Camera flash bulbs.
The vat rate for camera flash bulbs is now 30 per cent (previously 18 per cent).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Bahrain

Industrial property. A copy of Ministerial Order 2/1978, the Rules for implementing the Regulations concerning patents, designs and trade marks, has now been received. The Rules set out the criteria for applying for patent, design or trade mark rights and the powers of the Register of Commerce in accepting or rejecting such applications. (Articles 3 to 8).

Publication and objection procedures are detailed in Articles 10 to 14, whilst registration and rights are explained in Articles 15 to 17.

Article 18 covers patents of addition and Article 19 the transfer of industrial property rights. There is a list of fees attached to the order, together with samples of forms. The Ministerial Order is available for public inspection in the Chancery House Annex of the Science Reference Library, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery House, Chancery Lane, London WC2 1AY.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Bolivia

Additions to import licensing list. Under supreme decree 15283 of 30 January 1978 a further two items have been added to the import licensing list, tariff no. 70.17.03.00 and 87.14.01.01. A number of items which will be free of import duty if imported by industrial firms but will require a licence are:

29.26.01.01: 32.05.04.00: 33.04.00.00: 34.02.01.00: 52.01.00.02: 59.03.01.99: 73.24.00.00 and 85.01.13.01

No further details are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Tariff modifications. Supreme decree 15283 of 30 January 1978 has amended the import duty on a number of items falling within tariff nos.:

ex 28.18, ex 28.21, ex 29.01, ex 29.13, ex 29.15, ex 37.02, ex 38.19, ex 39.03, 40.02, ex 44.25, ex 48.05, ex 48.07, ex 48.21, 49.04, 70.03, 70.04, 70.05, 70.06, 70.17, ex 70.20, ex 73.40, 84.55, ex 90.07, ex 90.10

The following modifications have been made by the addition of new sub-headings to:

Tariff no.		Ad. val.
34.03.01.00	Lubricating preparations:	
01	For the treatment of textiles, leathers, skins, furs, etc	10%
99	Other	10%
39.03.21.00	Monofilament, tubes, bars, rods or profile shapes:	
39.04.00.00	Hardened proteins etc	
01	Skins for sausages	10%
99	Other	10%
39.07.07.00	Drums, carboys, bottles, etc	
17	Isothermal containers	45%
40.06.89.00	Other:	
02	Prepared compounds for the manufacture of profile shapes for tyre treads (strip rubber)	0%
87.12.02.00	Parts for auto-cycles or bicycles with or without engines:	
02	Frames, seat supports, chain supports, front forks	30%
03	Mudgards, and rods for mudguards, racks, supports or foot rests	30%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Denmark

Amendment to Danish Food Act 'positive list'. The 'positive list' to the Danish Food Act (no. 310) of July 1973 originally came into force on 1 July 1974. This list of permitted additives used in foodstuffs has recently been amended.

The amended version becomes law on 1 July 1978 for imported manufactured goods and on 1 July 1979 for goods actually sold in Denmark.

Copies of the amended list can be obtained from OTAR.

Inquiries: 01-248 5757 ext. 408/7174/423.

Egypt

Import restrictions. It has been announced by the Egyptian authorities that at present import permits are unlikely to be granted for a wide range of items that are either produced or manufactured locally. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Finland

Ladies' semi-manufactured tights. The Finnish Ministry of Finance decided on 28 March that a minimum import price of 1.20 Finnish marks per pair will be imposed on ladies' semi-manufactured tights. If the import price is lower than the mip the importer will be liable from 1 April to pay the difference as a duty. The Finnish customs advise that exceptions will not be made for consignments already en route. Imports from the USSR, Comecon countries and Efta countries will, however, be exempt from this measure.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Marking on sales containers. Decree 279/77 amended the Finnish foodstuffs regulations with respect to packaging of foodstuffs and in fact of most consumer goods. The timetable for complying with these regulations has been extended as follows: manufacturers, persons who have had the goods prepared or manufactured on their own behalf, packers, and importers if the goods are imported prepacked may offer for sale until the end of September 1980, and retailers and other suppliers until the end of September 1981 products not complying with the regulations.

An unofficial translation of the food regulations is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

France

Bees, natural honey and related products and materials. An order of the Ministry of Agriculture dated 13 March 1978 banning the importation, except in transit, of bees (01.06c), natural honey (04.06), bees-wax (ex 15.15b) and materials such as hives, frames, etc which have been used in bee-keeping (ex 44.28c) was published in the *Official Journal* of 22 March 1978. The ban will come into effect on 22 May 1978 and affects France, Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique and Reunion, but the Ministry may issue global or individual exemptions from the ban if so required. Copies of the French text are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423.

Greece

Import of agricultural machinery. Under a recent government decision agricultural machinery classified under Greek tariff headings 84.24A, 84.24B, 84.24C, 84.25A, 84.25B, 84.26 (milking machines only) and 87.01 (tractors) may now be imported from the EEC without payment of remaining taxes, stamp duty and import duty where previously levied.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext.439.

Israel

Imports of pesticides for household use. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced that according to the decision of the Ministry of Health, Department of Pharmacology, Jerusalem, any imports of pesticides for household use will now require advance licensing by the Ministry of Health before their importation into Israel, even if such preparations are allowed to be imported freely according to the free imports order, 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Ivory Coast

Changes in VAT. The rates of VAT for all products have been increased as follows:

10 per cent increased to 10.5 per cent; 22 per cent increased to 23.5 per cent; the higher rate of 33.5 per cent is unchanged.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 472.

Japan

Import liberalisation. *Trade and Industry* notice of 16 January reported that the Japanese had announced proposals to liberalise certain import items, subject to final confirmation. These measures have now been passed, effective from 1 April 1978. The proposed import quota increases reported in the same notice will be brought into effect as the quotas are decided in the next few months.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420/475.

Kenya

Import duties. The *Kenya Gazette Supplement* of 24 February 1978 announces that in order to increase protection of the local textile industry, the import duty of the following goods has been increased to 100 per cent:

CCCN numbers – 58.05, 60.03, 60.04, 60.05A, 61.01B, 61.02, 61.03, 61.04B, 61.05, 62.01, 62.02A(1), 62.01A(2), 62.02A(3), 62.03A(4), 62.03A(5), 62.03B, 62.03C, 62.03D

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 472/473/462.

New Zealand

Industrial Development Commission report. Copies of the New Zealand Industrial Development Commission report on book production are now available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5321.

Nigeria

Exchange control. Further to the notice in *Trade and Industry* of 24 March, page 665, the Nigerian Central Bank has issued a circular letter to all commercial banks operating in the country stating that the embargo placed on the opening of letters of credit has now been lifted.

The circular letter also states that with effect from 5 April expatriates' personal remittances are limited to 50 per cent of assessable salary net of tax plus the post tax balance of salary earned whilst on leave outside Nigeria – in the past the 50 per cent limit had been applied to gross salaries.

In addition the new requirement for advance deposits for letters of credit for imports other than capital goods, raw materials, medicaments and food items has been restated.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064.

Budget 1978-79. Further to *Trade and Industry*, page 90, 14 April, the following notices were published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette* of 1 April 1978 to take effect from that date.

1 Tariff changes. Legal notice, 14, amends the duties payable on commodities in almost all chapters of the customs tariff.

2 Import restrictions. Legal notice, 16, gives details of the goods which are prohibited and those for which an import licence is required. The additions to the 1977 lists are as follows:

1 Prohibited
Fresh milk (tariff no. 04.01).
Flavoured or coloured beet sugar (tariff no. 17.02).
Macaroni and spaghetti (tariff nos. 19.03 and 21.07D).
Beer and stout (tariff no. 22.03).
Vitaminised malt extract drinks (tariff no. 22.02B).
Footwear (tariff chapter 64 and no. 62.05).
Carpets, carpeting and rugs (tariff nos. 58.01-58.02).
Furniture excluding medical, dental, surgical or veterinary furniture (tariff nos. 9.401 and 9.403).
Chilled or frozen meat of all kinds (including poultry) but excluding importations from neighbouring countries (tariff nos. 02.01-02.04).
Matches (tariff no. 36.06).
Jewellery and imitation jewellery (tariff chapter 71).
Men's and boys' outer and under garments of all kinds, women's, girls and infants' outer and under garments of all kinds, including headties (tariff nos. 39.07B, 43.03A, 43.04A, 60.04, 40.13, 60.05, 60.06B (2), 61.03, 61.04, 61.05, 61.06 and 70.20A).
Household candles (tariff no. 34.06).

2 Import licences required
Stout imported in tanks for blending by a manufacturer approved in that behalf by the commission (tariff no. 48.01).
Cornflakes, rice crisps and similar cereals (tariff no. 19.05).
Structural (scaffolding) pipes.
Radio receiving sets, record players, tape recorders, video cassette recorders, tape decks and stereo sets (tariff no 85.15).
Television sets (tariff no. 85.15).
Air-conditioners (tariff no. 84.12) and domestic refrigerators (tariff no. 84.15).
Paints (tariff nos. 32.09 and 32.10).
Cigars and cheroots (tariff no. 24.02).
Bare and insulated copper or aluminium electric wires (tariff nos. 74.03, 76.02 and 85.23).
Motorcycles (tariff no. 87.09).
Built-up commercial vehicles (trucks and lorries) (tariff no. 87.02).
Chilled or frozen meat imported from neighbouring countries.
Computers and similar data processing machines.

Certain goods will be allowed into Nigeria if shipped before 1 April 1978 or covered by an established irrevocable letter of credit opened before 16 March 1978 arriving in Nigeria's territorial waters on or before 16 March.

The goods are:

1 Fresh milk.
2 Flavoured or coloured beet sugar.
3 Macaroni and spaghetti.
4 Footwear.
5 Chilled or frozen meat (including poultry).
6 Jewellery and imitation jewellery.
7 Ready-made garments (outer and under garments for men, boys, women, girls and infants).
8 Eggs imported solely for hatching.
9 Household candles.

Goods from South Africa, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), Namibia (South West Africa), are absolutely prohibited.

3 Excise tariff (duties). Legal notice 15 substituted a new schedule 1 to the excise tariff (consolidation) decree 1973.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

Panama

Import quotas. The Panamanian Price Control Office has announced the introduction of the following import quotas:

Tariff no.	Description	Annual quota
011-03-00	Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen	10 gross kilos
012-01-00	Ham, bacon and other meat of swine, dried, salted, smoked or simply cooked, not in air-tight containers	80 per cent of 1977 imports
012-01-00	Bacon, not in air-tight containers	10 per cent of 1977 imports
012-01-00	Meat of swine, dried, salted, smoked, not in air-tight containers	10 gross kilos
013-01-00	Sausages of all kinds, not in air-tight containers	10 gross kilos
013-01-01	Salami and pepperoni (type Genoa and dry)	Free
013-02-01	Vienna sausages, in air-tight containers	Free
013-02-02	Bacon in air-tight containers	25 per cent of 1977 imports
013-02-04	Devilled ham	Free
013-02-05	Ham paste in containers of less than one kilo	Restricted to 1977 imports
013-02-05	Ham paste in containers over one kilo	10 gross kilos

The tariff numbers quoted above correspond to CCCN headings 02.01, 02.06 and 16.01.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Singapore

Medicines. The Singapore government has issued the Medicines (Clinical Trial) Regulations 1978 which came into operation on 27 March 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

South Africa

Budget 1978. The Minister of Finance, senator Horwood, presented his budget for 1978-79 on 29 March. He announced that his main priority was to shift the emphasis of his short-term economic policy towards increasing the rate of real economic growth. He expected that in 1978 there would be a moderate increase in real private consumption and in real gross domestic expenditure and that the downward tendency in real fixed investment would be arrested. He anticipated also a significant acceleration of the rate of real economic growth in 1978 and a reasonable surplus on the current account of the balance of payments.

The following are some of the measures proposed:

1 The imposition of a general sales tax of 4 per cent from 1 July 1978. This tax will be levied at the point of final sale.
2 Import surcharge to be reduced on 30 March 1978 from 15 per cent to 12.5 per cent with a possible further reduction later.
3 Sales duty to be reduced by 5 per cent ad valorem from 30 March 1978 (ie the present lowest rate of 8 per cent is reduced to 3 per cent and the highest rate of 33 per cent to 28 per cent) Existing sales duty on certain less essential goods subject to relatively high rates to be converted into ad valorem excise duties later this year.
4 Excise duty on unfortified wine to be reduced from 7 cents per litre to 4 cents per litre from 30 March 1978.
5 Companies tax: surcharge on normal income tax payable by companies to be reduced by 2.5 percentage points in respect of the years of assessment ending between 1 April 1978 and 31 March 1979.
6 Income tax: abolition of present 10 per cent surcharge payable by individuals, bringing maximum marginal tax rate down to 60 per cent instead of 66 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 31 March 1978.

R.642 CCCN.39.02. The rate of duty on certain plates, sheets, strip, film and foil, of a thickness exceeding 0.25 mm but not exceeding 0.75 mm, of vinyl chloride polymers or copolymers, is amended from 25 per cent or 105 c per kg less 75 per cent to 25 per cent or 130 c per kg less 75 per cent.

R.643 CCCN.84.45. The provision for power-operated shearing machines (guillotines) with a cutting length not exceeding 305 cm is extended to include shearing machines with a cutting length not exceeding 415 cm. The restriction on the thickness of the products to be cut, is deleted.

R.644 CCCN.98.02. Specific provision, at a rate of duty of 50 per cent (general) and 25 per cent (MFN) is made for parts of sliders.

Industrial rebates

R.645 Item: 307.03.CCCN.39.01. As phenoplast moulding powders are free of duty in schedule no. 1, the provision for a rebate of duty on these powders for the manufacture of moulded plastic goods is withdrawn.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 23 March 1978.

R.581 CCCN.37.01 and 37.02. The rate of duty on sensitised, unexposed orthochromatic plates and film in the flat and those in rolls of a length not exceeding 500 m and a width not exceeding 1050 mm is amended from free (general) to 20 per cent or 450 c per m^2 less 80 per cent general and free (MFN).
R.582 CCCN.39.01. The tariff heading no. 39.01 is restated.
R.583 CCCN.85.01. The tariff heading no. 85.01 is restated.

Import surcharge
R.584 Item: 166.00. CCCN.37.00. The sub-heading 37.01.15 has been added to the list of exclusions.
R.585 Item: 167.00. CCCN.39.00. The following sub-headings have been substituted to the list of exclusions – 39.01, 10.40, 39.01.20.05, 39.01.20.06, 39.01.20.30, 39.01.20.31, 39.01.30.10, 39.01.69.10, 39.01.79.10 and 39.01.85.
R.586 Item: 176.00. CCCN.85.00. The following sub-headings have been added to the list of exclusions – 85.01.04 and 85.01.70.10.

General rebates
R.587 Item: 460.96. CCCN.28.17. Provision is made with retrospective effect to 2 December 1977, for a rebate of the full duty on sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) liquid, imported not later than 31 March 1978, in such quantities as the secretary for industries may allow by specific permit.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Switzerland

Order on imports of reinforcing rods. The Swiss Federal Council have issued an order on import arrangements for iron and steel reinforcing rods (chapter headings CCCN no. 73.10.24, ex .52, and ex .80, and CCCN no. 73.10.34, .52 and .80, of the Swiss customs tariff).

The order includes regulations concerning the supervision of imports and payment of additional duties.

The order enters into force on 10 March 1978, and is applicable until 31 December 1978.

A translation has been made of this order.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Thailand

Tariff amendments. The Thai government have issued the emergency decree on customs tariff, 35, 1978 which came into force on the 9 March 1978, whereby tariff duties have been increased on those products coming under the following CCCN numbers.

03.02a, 04.03, 04.04, 08.01b, 08.02, 08.03, 08.04 08.05b, 08.06, 08.07, 08.08, 08.09, 08.10, 08.11, 08.12, 08.13, 15.13, 16.01, 16.02, 16.03, 16.04a, 16.04b, 16.05b, 17.04, 18.06, 19.03, 19.04, 19.05, 19.06b, 19.07, 19.08, 20.01, 20.02, 20.03, 20.04, 20.05, 20.06, 20.07, 33.06a, 34.01, 42.02, 42.03b, 42.05, 43.03, 43.04b, 48.11, 48.12, 48.14, 48.15, 48.16, 48.17, 48.18, 48.19, 48.21b, 49.09, 49.10, 50.09, 50.10, 51.04, 52.02,

53.11, 57.12, 53.13, 54.05, 56.07, 53.09, 57.10, 57.11, 57.12, 60.02, 60.03, 60.04a, 60.04b, 60.05, 60.06, 61.01, 61.02, 61.03a, 61.03b, 61.04a, 61.04b, 61.05, 61.06, 61.07, 61.08, 61.09b, 61.11, 62.02, 62.05, 64.01, 64.02, 64.03, 64,04, 65.03, 65.04, 65.05, 65.06, 66.01, 66.02, 68.02, 68.16b, 69.07, 69.08, 69.10, 69.11, 69.12, 69.13, 70.13, 70.16, 74.18, 76.15, 82.09, 82.14, 85.06b, 85.14, 85.15b (1), 85.15b (2), 85.15b (3), 87.02c (2), 87.02d (1), 87.02d (2), 87.05, 87.09, 92.11, 94.01, 94.03, 93.04, 98.01 and 98.02, and also the following CCCN numbers: 02.01, 55.07, 55.08, 55.09, 58.04, 58.05, 58.08, 58.09, 58.10, 60.01, 61.10, 69.14, 70.14, 73.38, 84.11, 84.15, 84.17 and 85.10

This notice makes certain amendments to *Trade and Industry* notice 'Import ban on luxury goods', of 24 February 1978 and *Trade and Industry* notice 'Increase in import duty', 30 March 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Tunisia

Additional duties. It has been announced by the Tunisian authorities that as from 25 March 1978 an additional duty ranging from 5 to 300 per cent on the cif value will be levied on a wide range of items.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

United Arab Emirates

Visas. From 10 April, UK citizens whose passports bear the endorsement 'Holder has the right of abode' will be free to enter the UAE without having to obtain a visa. On entry they will be given permission to stay one month and this may be extended on application by up to a further two months. The visa waiver will cover the majority of business visitors but some formalities remain for other categories of travellers such as those who will take up employment.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5221/5396.

United States

Firearms regulations. The United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has published proposed new rules which would require the marking and reporting of firearms by manufacturers and importers. Comments on these proposed regulations should be submitted on or before 22 May 1978 to Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Regulations and Procedures Division, Washington DC 20226.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Food labelling of fats and oils. The *Federal Register* dated 28 March 1978 published a final rule by the Food and Drug Administration amending the food labelling regulations to provide in a more accurate manner the identification of the fat and oil ingredient mandatory compliance on 1 July 1979.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Prescription drugs. The *Federal Register* dated 23 March 1978 published a final rule by the Consumer Product Safety Commission to require all prescription drugs distributed to pharmacies to be in child-resistant packaging under the Poison Prevention Packaging Act. A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Hazardous products. The *Federal Register* dated 30 March 1978 published a rule proposed by the Consumer Product Safety Commission to clarify requirements, policies, and procedures on certain aspects of the CPSC Act, affecting manufacturers, importers and distributors reporting products that fail to comply with a consumer product safety rule or which contain a defect which could create a hazard. Written comments (five copies) by 26 April 1978. A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Bicycle tyres and tubes. The International Trade Commission started an investigation on 16 March 1978 to determine whether pneumatic bicycle tyres, provided for in item 773.48 of the tariff schedules of the United States, or tubes for bicycle tyres, item 773.57 are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly competitive articles. A public hearing will be held in Washington at 9.30 am on 6 June 1978. Requests for appearances at the hearing should be received by the Secretary to the commission in Washington by 31 May 1978.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Chlorofluorocarbons. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) have jointly announced proposal of regulations to phase out non-essential aerosol uses of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCS). The regulations proposed by FDA and EPA appeared in the *Federal Register* of 13 May. A 60-day public comment period and an EPA hearing, beginning 1 August, will precede development and promulgation of the final regulations. Additionally, FDA will accept comments for 30 days following the hearing on any new information which is brought out in the hearings.

All fully halogenated chlorofluoroalkanes, including F-11 and F-12, currently in commercial use, are covered by the proposed progressive ban, and potential chemically similar substitutes. Only use of these compounds as aerosol propellants, and *not* as the active ingredient, is affected.

Inquiries: CRE: 01-215 5327.

Citizen band transceivers. The President decided on 27 March 1978 to proclaim a tariff increase with respect to citizen band (CB) radio transceivers of an additional 15 per cent on the current rate in the first year, to be phased down by three per cent for each of the following two years. The duty would then revert to its current rate of six per cent ad valorem.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

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Import of speciality steels under quota. Imports in pounds weight for the remaining product with quota still open as at 7 April 1978.

Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	5 601 410

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Yugoslavia

Import regulations. The Yugoslav *Official Gazette*, 62, 1977. Item 903 contains a list of goods which can only be imported by special import permit issued by the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Trade. The regulation became effective on 1 January 1978.

The goods concerned fall within the following CCCN numbers:

08.01, 08.02, 08.05, 09.01, 09.02, 09.04, 12.01, 17.01, 17.03, 18.01, 18.03, 18.04, 18.05, 18.06, 20.06, 20.07. 23.01, 25.10, 26.01, 27.01, 28.20, 40.01, 41.01, 41.02, 41.03, 41.04, 44.03, 44.04, 44.05, 45.01, 45.02, 45.03, 45.04, 47.01, 53.01, 53.05, 55.01, 55.03, 55.04, 55.05, 57.03, 57.04, 57.06, 57.10, 62.03, 74.01, 76.01, 80.01

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,401	10,528	1,830	1,929	£ million		
1971	101.8	32 675	9 682	1 988	1 922	92	−148	52	18	1 074	279	795
1972	104.2	34 542	9 797	1 721	2 035	34	−145	48	15	126	−701	827
1973	110.4	36 062	10 253	1 730	2 377	1,321	597	102	379	−983	−2 354	1 471
1974	109.5	35 361	10 287	1 964	2 300	596	634	81	−109	−3 515	−5 195	1 680
1975	107.2	35 269	9 640	1 695	1 921	−842	−429	−111	−65	−1 614	−3 205	1 591
1976	109.7	35 406	9 444	1 633	1 900	97	5	23	9	−1 107	−3 510	2 403
1977	110.6	35 133	9 072	1 761	2 072	423	219	103	17	−35	−1 612	1 577
1976 2nd qtr.	109.2	8 793	2 346	400	468	−12	−66	−20	−45	−345	−909	564
3rd qtr.	109.5	8 879	2 377	414	488	5	−2	14	16	−377	−1 097	720
4th qtr.	111.1	8 928	2 343	422	496	105	73	3	5	−338	−961	623
1977 1st qtr.	110.0	8 758	2 260	418	502	233	125	51	102	−505	−947	442
2nd qtr.	110.7	8 644	2 293	433	508	228	164	39	−5	−364	−764	400
3rd qtr.	110.9	8 831	2 265	456	530	−31	−31	5	−44	483	54	429
4th qtr.	110.8	8 900	2 254	455	533	−7	−40	7	−36	351	45	306
1978 1st qtr.										−218	−518	300
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.5	+1.9	−0.7	+7.1	+5.2							
on a year earlier	+0.5	−0.4	−4.3	+9.0	+8.0							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)				Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults		Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count		On a balance of payments basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)					at 1975 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 16,296	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands		1975 19,462	1975 22,667
1971	100.1	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	119.4	775.8	3.4	130.9		84.6	83.3
1972	102.3	102.0	105.3	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.8	854.9	3.7	147.3		84.5	92.4
1973	110.1	110.5	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.6	611.0	2.6	307.0		96.8	105.6
1974	106.3	108.9	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.6	599.7[1]	2.6[1]	302.7[1]		103.9	107.9
1975	100.6	102.2	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	227.6	929.0	3.9	150.0[1]		100.0	100.0
1976	101.3	103.1	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	263.3	1 269.8[1]	5.4[1]	120.4[1]		109.9	105.5
1977	102.5	103.7	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	340.1	261.7	288.6	1 378.1	5.8	155.6[1]		118.9	107.0
1977 1st qtr.	103.2	105.2	103.3	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.2	1 329.5	5.6	..		115.7	109.1
2nd qtr.	102.0	103.0	102.5	103	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.2	1 340.6	5.6	157.7		118.0	109.8
3rd qtr.	102.7	103.7	104.3	112	184.7	16.5	340.5	267.7	288.4	1 414.6	5.9	151.9		124.1	106.4
4th qtr.	102.0	102.9	104.4	110	187.4	13.1	330.6	272.1	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1		117.9	102.6
1978 1st qtr.			105.9 p		190.6		326.6 p	278.9 p		1 409.4	5.9	187.7		121.1	114.0
1977 Apr.	102.3	103.5	102.3	106	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	283.1	1 333.8	5.6	155.5		116.2	105.3
May	103.3	104.8	103.2	108	181.7	17.1	348.3	259.8	286.2	1 323.8	5.5	159.4		116.0	109.6
June	100.3	100.6	102.1	95	183.6	17.7	345.2	262.4	286.2	1 364.3	5.7	158.1		121.9	114.5
July	102.8	104.3	104.8	113	183.8	17.6	344.5	265.8	286.5	1 398.5	5.9	155.2		123.1	110.4
Aug.	102.7	1033.	104.7	116	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	288.7	1 410.3	5.9	153.4		123.4	101.3
Sept.	102.6	103.5	103.5	107	185.7	15.6	338.1	269.2	290.1	1 434.9	6.0	147.2		125.9	107.5
Oct.	101.7	102.7	102.7	116	186.5	14.1	333.8	271.0	294.6	1 431.5	6.0	156.0		119.4	101.3
Nov.	101.6	102.2	103.1	108	187.4	13.0	329.9	272.0	300.1	1 429.6	6.0	159.4		115.3	98.4
Dec.	102.5	103.7	106.9	104	188.4	12.1	328.0	273.3	306.6	1 422.3	6.0	165.0		118.9	108.1
1978 Jan.	103.0	103.2	104.9	125	189.5	9.9	324.9	277.1	306.0 p	1 419.2	5.9	180.3		112.6	114.4
Feb.	103.8 p	103.8 p	106.8	120	190.6	9.5	324.1 p	279.2 p		1 409.0	5.9	187.0		128.7	110.7
Mar.			106 p		191.8	9.1	330.7 p	280.4 p		1 400.0	5.9	195.8		121.9 p	117.0 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+1.1	+0.7	+1.4	+5.4	+1.7		−1.2	+2.5	+4.5	−1.3				+2½	+11
on a year earlier	−	−1.2	+2.5	+9.4	+9.5		−4.4	+12.5	+10.3	+6.0				+4½	+4½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate e Estimate .. Not available [1] Average of available months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

How different methods of country attribution affect trade statistics

An imported product might be manufactured in one country, consigned from a second country and purchased from a third country. To which country should it be attributed in trade-by-country statistics?

Analysis of import and export statistics according to country is common. It is often assumed that identification of country is straightforward, but this is not necessarily so. An import or export transaction can be a complex process in which more than one partner country can be identified. A product can be manufactured in one country and be changed or incorporated into a more highly fabricated product in other countries. It can be transported through yet other countries. And its ownership may change along with these changes in the product's physical state or its transportation – or for some other reason.

Ronald Green, Economics and Statistics Division, Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection, describes systems of attribution of trade by country. He then discusses the United Kingdom trade statistics, suggesting that though the consignment system of country attribution on which these are based has its drawbacks, the disadvantages of other systems are, arguably, greater. Finally, he considers the statistical measurement of the UK-EEC trade balance, concluding that while the published UK statistics probably exaggerate the UK deficit with the community, satisfactory alternative measures of this balance cannot be made.

Systems of attribution

Three systems of attribution of trade by partner country are most commonly in use: country of purchase (for imports) and sale (for exports); country of origin/production (for imports) and final destination/consumption (for exports); and country of consignment.

Purchase-sale system

The purchase-sale system attributes imports and exports to the country of the seller and purchaser respectively of the goods. This method of attribution is a logical extension of balance of payments accounts, since these accounts record transactions of an economy with residents of the rest of the world, and therefore a sub-account with another country would record transactions with residents of that country.

The disadvantage of this system is that it concentrates solely on the financial aspect of international trade. This aspect may be relevant for certain analytical uses but since purchasers and sellers will sometimes be residents of countries other than the countries where the goods are produced or through which they are transported, no notice is taken of these important aspects of the transaction in such instances.

Further, in practice, there may be difficulties in securing accurate recording of the country of residence of the purchaser/seller of the goods. In many countries the trade statistics are based on customs returns; these returns typically do not require much information about the financial aspects of a transaction and those submitting returns do not need to know about the financing of the goods imported or exported. Additionally, the information which is most readily available from commercial records – namely the country of source/destination of the payment for the goods – may not be identical with the country of residence of the purchaser/seller of the goods.

These practical difficulties probably explain why the purchase-sale system is the least favoured method of attribution with about 5 per cent only of countries, mainly the centrally planned economies, operating it as their primary method of attribution in their statistics.

Origin – consumption system

The attribution system of origin/production for imports, and of final destination/consumption for exports has the merit of logical appeal and would seem the most obvious and desirable form of attribution to adopt. Its aim is the apparently simple one of the measurement of the exchange of real resources between economies. It also has, as regards imports, specific uses in relation to duties, quotas etc. But, in some ways, the simplicity can be often more apparent than real. Many goods are subject to further processing or incorporation in more highly fabricated products in countries other than the country of production of the initial product before being finally consumed – such as motor vehicles and motor vehicle components. In the case of imports, the definitional rules on origin will vary from country to country, but a typical definition is that the country of origin is the last country where substantial processing of the goods has occurred.

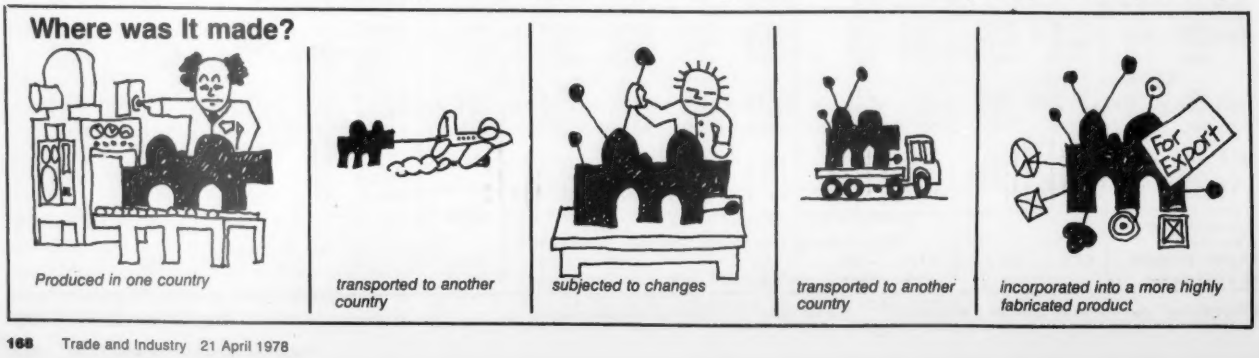
Definitions of this nature may be satisfactory for customs or other administrative requirements. But for more general analyses of trade flows, trade balances for example, the underlying logic of attribution by origin would seem to require that the value added to the finished product by individual countries be taken into account. However the recording of origin by the parcelling out of its elements is not a practical proposition.

The origin system is also subject to the disadvantage – in the context of international comparability of trade flows – that the same goods can be recorded in the imports of more than one country: a good imported into France from the United States and then resold to the UK would appear in both French and UK import statistics as an import from the United States. Again, as regards exports under this system, there is the disadvantage that the exporter of the goods may not know their country of consumption so that what is recorded is, in practice, the last known country of destination. As a result, statistics of bilateral trade balances based on a conceptual production-consumption approach may suffer from some imbalance in the reported statistics with the import figures being closer than the export figures to the desired concept.

Despite these drawbacks, the method of attribution most favoured by countries as their primary system (some countries compile figures on more than one system) is that of origin-final destination, which is employed by about 75 per cent of countries. This preference probably owes as much to customs and other administrative interests in the origin of imports as it does to other factors. The most valuable use of this system is in this context; for other purposes, as will be illustrated below, it runs into difficulties.

Consignment system

The consignment system may be viewed as a pragmatic compromise method of attribution in that it attempts to pay some regard to the financial aspect of the transaction and to the physical movement of the goods; it will often also be related to the country of production/consumption of the goods. But such an attempt at a multi-link has inevitable weaknesses. Conceptually, the country of consign-


Where was it made?
Produced in one country
transported to another country
subjected to changes
transported to another country
For Export
incorporated into a more highly fabricated product

ment is usually defined, in the case of imports (there is mirror definition for exports), as the country of first shipment of the goods to the importing country provided there is no intervening commercial transaction in another country. This means that if a good is despatched from, say, West Germany but is transported via the Netherlands, the importing country will record West Germany as the country of consignment unless a commercial transaction has taken place in the Netherlands, which would then become the country of consignment. (A commercial transaction should be taken as meaning a change of ownership of the goods.) It will be seen from these examples that the consignment system has two particular advantages. First, the country of consignment is often also the country of purchase. (Such an identification is not certain, however; in the example offered the seller could be, say, a Belgian merchant.) This frequent identification with the purchase-sale system is valuable since, as stated, this system is the appropriate method of attribution for balance of payments accounts; on the other hand, the consignment method avoids what may be considered a less than desirable feature of the purchase-sale system in which attribution is made to countries not involved in the physical movement of the goods. Thus, reverting to our example, if a Dutch merchant had bought the German-produced goods and resold to the eventual importing country but the goods had been transported direct from West Germany, the importing country would attribute the imports to the Netherlands on the purchase-sale system but the Dutch customs statistics would not record this transaction as the goods had not passed through the Netherlands. This consideration leads into the second advantage of the consignment method which is that its correlation with physical movement is valuable in the context of international comparisons of trade flows as compiled by different countries since these are often based on customs records of movements of goods.

The consignment method is thus a potentially useful system of attribution. However, it depends crucially on the commercial transaction requirement within its definition; this requirement ought to be equated with a change in ownership of the goods, and not merely equated with a change arising from transportation changes, for the consignment attribution method to be of particular value. In practice it is difficult to establish that this identification with a change in ownership has been met; if it has not, the country of consignment becomes merely the country of last shipment, which is, for most purposes, not a very important attribute of the import transaction. (It should be said in passing that the identification of changes in transportation is valuable if the main purpose of the statistics is for use in transportation studies. However this aspect is typically secondary in practice to the main purpose of trade statistics which is the measurement of the exchange of goods.)

Largely because of its value as the best basis for the comparison of data on trade flows compiled by individual countries, the consignment system has traditionally been recommended by the United Nations as a recording method. About 20 per cent of countries – including the United Kingdom – use this system as their primary method of attribution, though some more countries also record trade on the consignment system in addition to their primary system of, usually, origin-final destination attribution.

Which system is best?

To summarise, all three systems have their merits and are attempting to meet various analytical interests. The purchase-sale system concentrates on the financial aspect of the change of ownership of goods and the production/consumption system attempts to measure the exchange of real resources between economies. The consignment system is a pragmatic attempt at a method avoiding the less desirable features of the other systems and, in particular, their disadvantage of non-comparability of national records of flows of goods between countries. (If universally adopted, the purchase-sale system could achieve international comparability of flows of payments for goods, though not of the physical flows themselves.) All three systems are subject to recording errors and may also record features of a trade transaction other than the feature which is conceptually required.

For a good deal of international trade, attributions of transactions according to all three systems will produce identical results. In so far as this is not true, the extent to which statistics on the various systems differ for any one country's statistics will depend very much on the features of that country's trading situation.

United Kingdom trade

Imports

The general considerations discussed above have considerable relevance to the statistics of United Kingdom trade with its trading partners. In the case of imports the published United Kingdom statistics have for many years been based on the consignment system of attribution in line with the United Nations recommendation but, since 1974, import statistics on an origin basis have also been compiled. The differences between the results on the two bases are illustrated by tables 1 and 2 which give UK imports by main areas on a consignment basis and an origin basis respectively. A comparison of these area figures, made in table 3, brings out very clearly the interesting feature that the totals of imports consigned from western Europe, and particularly from the EEC, are significantly larger than imports originating from these areas. Larger origin-based than consignment-based imports from other areas mirror the European difference with imports of UK origin completing the balancing of the table. The implications of this table require further examination.

First, the apparent oddity of imports of UK origin requires further explanation. This arises because the trade statistics record almost all inward and outward flows of goods across the national boundary. Thus the import statistics record UK-produced goods returned to the UK for repair (aircraft engines and other engineering products); UK exports may be returned after use abroad (constructors' equipment) or if unsold (jewellery on approval); return import flows of UK products arise from international collaborative production projects and continental shelf activity, and so on. Inward flows of this nature would be attributed to the country from whence they are shipped under consignment attribution and the existence of such flows explains in part why the consignment-based totals of UK imports from western Europe exceed the origin-based figures.

A substantial difference remains, however, which implies the consignment via western European countries of imports destined for the United Kingdom but originating from outside Europe. In theory at least, mere transhipment of the goods at ports of the European country, eg Rotterdam or Antwerp, from which consignment of them has been recorded should not be the reason for this phenomenon since, as said earlier, importers should ignore transportation changes, if that is all that is involved, in recording the country of consignment. In practice, however, an importer may incorrectly equate the country of consignment with the country of last shipment so that transhipment could explain an element of the difference between the two sets of figures. But, aside from inaccurate recording, there are two general reasons why consignment within Europe could be recorded. First, the goods, though originating outside Europe, have been subject to a limited amount of processing in Europe though insufficient to amend the description by the UK importer of their origin as being from a non-European country; second, a

Table 1 UK imports by country of consignment

£ million cif

	1974	1975	1976	1977
EEC	7 716	8 786	11 386	14 035
Rest of western Europe	3 462	3 572	4 579	5 519
North America	3 249	3 210	4 225	4 924
Other developed countries	1 683	1 851	2 119	2 671
Oil exporting countries	3 795	3 279	4 207	3 691
Other developing countries	2 584	2 666	3 514	4 247
Centrally planned economies	743	736	1 110	1 353
Total [1]	23 232	24 099	31 138	36 441

[1] Excludes low value trade for which country data are not available.

Table 2 UK imports by country of origin

£ million cif

	1974	1975	1976	1977
EEC	6 976	7 829	10 027	12 595
Rest of western Europe	3 317	3 286	4 038	4 797
North America	3 512	3 598	4 668	5 429
Other developed countries	1 683	1 970	2 653	3 398
Oil exporting countries	4 043	3 506	4 444	3 883
Other developing countries	2 630	2 739	3 653	4 331
Centrally planned economies	783	784	1 171	1 405
UK origin	289	388	486	603
Total [1] [2]	23 232	24 099	31 138	36 441

[1] Excludes low value trade for which country data are not available. [2] Some arbitrary but minor adjustments have been made to the available country of origin data to facilitate comparison with table 1.

Table 3 Differences between UK imports by consignment and imports by origin [1]

£ million cif

	1974	1975	1976	1977
EEC	+740	+957	+1 359	+1 440
Rest of western Europe	+145	+286	+541	+722
North America	−263	−388	−443	−505
Other developed countries	—	−119	−534	−726
Oil exporting countries	−248	−227	−237	−192
Other developing countries	−46	−73	−139	−84
Centrally planned economies	−40	−48	−61	−52
UK origin	−289	−388	−486	−603

[1] + indicates that imports on the consignment basis are *higher* than on the origin basis; − indicates that imports on the consignment basis are *lower* than on the origin basis.

change of ownership has occurred in Europe. In such cases the European country will become the country of consignment and also, incidentally, more often than not the country of purchase.

Further investigation, in terms of country and commodity detail, of the higher consignment-based than origin-based figures of UK imports from EEC countries sheds some more light on the reasons for this difference.

Perhaps one-half of the difference of £1,440 million in 1977 in imports on the respective bases arose from the return flows of goods to the UK for repair and other reasons mentioned above, together with flows of precious stones which are returned after inspection, valuation, etc in continental countries. The trade accounting for the remainder of the difference is widespread in terms of countries and commodities. A substantial element of this trade is, however, concentrated in a few products, such as cereals, crude oil and chemicals with consignment of these occurring particularly in the Netherlands and, to a lesser extent, Belgium and the Irish Republic. It is likely that this situation, in part at least, results from the international activities of multi-national companies, and reflects the shipping of goods from outside Europe (such as grains from north America and oil from the Middle East) to a European port for subsequent operations there, perhaps storage, distribution and marketing, and consignment to another country. It may be that the attribution of some of these trade flows to a European country of consignment is incorrect (for example, the goods have been subject to transhipment only at a European port such as Rotterdam) and further investigations into the detail of such transactions are to be made.

Exports

Considerations parallel to those arising over imports will also apply to the attribution of exports by country but, in practice, there is little statistical information available on this subject. The mirror attribution for exports, to that of origin for imports, is the country of final destination/consumption but in practice an exporter may not always be able to identify this country and, in general, customs or other administrative interest in such identification is typically less necessary than in the parallel identification of origin for imports. As a result the statistics compiled by most countries are, in practice, based on the country of last known destination of the exports. This is the case for the United Kingdom statistics; it is likely that there will be some small differences, at least, between the country totals on this basis and those on the basis of country of consumption, though there is no quantitative evidence available on this matter.

Trade balances

The conceptual and practical difficulties about country attributions of trade flows are underlined when one comes to the consideration of the trade balance (exports less imports) with an area or country. The United Kingdom-EEC trade balance has been chosen as an example illustrating these difficulties, partly because of the complexities of the trade flows in this case and also because there has been public interest in this particular balance.

The published figures for recent years are given in table 4 (the table gives the crude trade balance – exports fob minus imports cif – in order to facilitate comparison with estimates of the same crude balance on an origin/final destination basis discussed later). As noted earlier these figures are based on the consignment system of attribution (in the case of exports there appears to be little difference, in practice, between figures on a country of consignment basis and those on the known final destination basis). The interpretation of these totals is that they attempt to measure, broadly speaking, the exchange of ownership of goods physically moving between the United Kingdom and the rest of the EEC, irrespective of the country of origin of these goods. But, in practice, the totals of imports and exports may be inflated by the inclusion of goods that have moved through the UK or other EEC countries without changing ownership, eg solely for transportation reasons. This recording weakness in the statistics is likely to be more true of UK imports from, than of UK exports to, the community and to the extent that this is so, the resulting trade balance will exaggerate the deficit which the United Kingdom has with the EEC.

In contrast, the conceptual aim of the trade balance on an origin/consumption basis is the measurement of the exchange of goods produced and consumed respectively by the trading partners; financial or transportation aspects of the exchange, which might arguably be considered to be less important attendant features of the exchange, are ignored. However, in practice, the measurement of such a balance raises considerable difficulties; it cannot, for instance, be arrived at by the simple juxtaposition of the UK imports of goods of EEC origin against published UK export figures. Some of the factors involved in the measurement of an appropriate balance are illustrated in table 5. One side of this balance is represented by UK imports of goods of EEC origin; these figures relate to goods wholly or substantially produced in the EEC. The other side of the required balance starts from the published figures of UK exports which are, as stated earlier, on a country of last known destination basis. But deduction of some export flows contained in these figures is necessary in view of the conceptual form of the trade balance that one is attempting to measure.

First, a substantial element of the return flows of goods that are revealed by imports of UK origin re-entering the UK, discussed above, has to be deducted. Thus in the table a deduction, which can only be made approximately, is necessary from the export figures to allow for return flows. Second, UK exports include re-exports, ie exports of imported goods, which have been subject to minor operations, eg tea blending; these goods should also be deducted from UK exports since they are not of UK origin and should not therefore be set against the imports of EEC origin in arriving at the trade balance. A very rough adjustment for re-exports to the EEC of goods of non-community origin is therefore also made in table 5. Other adjustments would also be necessary, if information about them were available. Thus some of the imports recorded as of EEC origin could, despite this description, in practice be more appropriately thought of as community re-exports of a similar nature to the UK re-exports and such goods could justifiably be deducted from the UK import figures. On the other side of the balance, some of the exports included in the UK export totals, though recorded as having a final destination in a community country, may in fact be consumed in a non-community country. No adjustments are possible for these two factors, though it is likely that they are of less quantitative importance than the adjustments for the return flows and for re-exports.

Thus, though the concept of a consumption balance seems simple, it is very difficult to measure it in practice. To some extent these practical difficulties arise from insufficient information about the details of transactions, such as the final destination of an export. The more important difficulty, however, is that the origin of many internationally traded goods cannot be neatly specified. A good deal of international trade, particularly of manufactured and semi-manufactured products, relates to exchanges of goods which, after further processing, leads to new international exchanges. The estimated trade balance in table 5 only allows for the more obvious factors which have to be taken into account in attempting to arrive at an origin-based trade balance; in particular, of course, it does not allow for the EEC contribution to UK exports or the UK contribution to EEC exports. The measurement of a balance from the exchange of real resources between trading partners thus develops, in practice, into the pursuit of a phantom concept.

In conclusion, the determination of a bilateral trade balance with a trading partner can be approached by more than one method and, in practice, there is no completely satisfactory method of measurement. In the specific case of the UK-EEC balance, no information is available on a balance measured by the purchase-sale method. Of the two other methods, the consignment attribution system probably exaggerates the size of the UK deficit with the community and indeed the indications are that the deficit based on the attributes of origin-consumption would be some hundreds of millions of pounds smaller. But attempts at the measurement of an origin-consumption based balance will in practice, be highly imprecise and subject to a wide margin of error.

Table 4 UK/EEC trade balance: consignment basis[1]

£ million

	1974	1975	1976	1977
UK exports to EEC fob	5 536	6 437	9 198	12 041
UK imports from EEC cif	7 716	8 786	11 386	14 035
Balance	−2 180	−2 349	−2 188	−1 994

[1] UK exports are in fact compiled on the basis of destination but this is believed to give results close to consignment-based figures.

Table 5 Estimated UK/EEC trade balance: on origin/consignment approach

£ million

	1974	1975	1976	1977
UK exports to EEC fob	5 536	6 437	9 198	12 041
less re-exports [1]	250	275	400	550
less return flows [2]	125	170	215	265
	5 161	5 992	8 583	11 226
UK imports from EEC (origin) cif	6 976	7 829	10 027	12 595
Balance [3]	−1 815	−1 837	−1 444	−1 369

[1] Estimated. The figures do not include re-exports of precious stones. In addition an attempt has been made to exclude the value of items returned to the EEC after repair because these are included in 'return flows'. [2] Estimated. Imports cif from the EEC of goods of UK origin. [3] Without taking into account: EEC re-exports; UK exports to EEC in fact consumed elsewhere.

Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for March

March 1978

The current account for March is estimated to have been in deficit by £164 million, following the surplus of £180 million in February.

There was a deficit on trade in goods in March of £264 million, following the surplus of £80 million in February. Exports were valued at £2,830 million and imports £3,094 million. The balance on invisibles is projected to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £100 million.

First quarter 1978

In the first quarter, the current account was in deficit by £218 million, compared with a surplus of £351 million in the previous quarter.

In the latest quarter, visible trade was in deficit by £518 million, compared with a surplus of £45 million in the previous quarter; imports rose substantially faster than exports. The surplus on invisibles in the latest quarter is projected at £300 million.

Current account on balance of payments basis

VISIBLE TRADE (tables 2, 4, 5, 6 and 6a)

March

In March, there was a deficit on visible trade of £264 million, following the surplus of £80 million in February. Exports fell by £169 million from the high February level, with lower exports of the more erratic items (ships, North Sea installations, aircraft and precious stones) accounting for about two-fifths of the fall. Imports, in contrast, increased by £175 million with particularly sharp rises in arrivals of food and chemicals.

In terms of volume, exports were down by 5½ per cent from the previous high level, while imports rose by 5½ per cent. The export and import unit value indices both rose by ½ per cent in March, leaving the terms of trade index virtually unchanged.

First quarter

In the first quarter of 1978, there was a visible trade deficit of £518 million compared with a surplus of £45 million in the last quarter of 1977. The worsening of some £560 million reflected a marked deterioration in the trade balances for most of the broad commodity groups, in particular industrial materials and machinery. The more erratic items of trade contributed comparatively little to this reduction. Exports in the first quarter, at £8,454 million, rose by 3 per cent (£250 million) following the fall in the previous quarter. Export volume increased by 2½ per cent (4 per cent excluding the more erratic factors) and was close to the average of the second half of last year. The value of imports in the first quarter, at £8,972 million, showed a larger increase, of 10 per cent (£813 million), also following a fall in the fourth quarter. Import volume rose by 11 per cent (12 per cent excluding the more erratic items)

Table 1 Current account

£ million, seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible trade: Visible balance	Visible trade: Exports fob	Visible trade: Imports fob	Invisibles: Balance	Invisibles: Credits	Invisibles: Debits
1977 3rd quarter	+483	+54	8 540	8 486	+429	4 000	3 571
4th quarter	+351	+45	8 204	8 159	+306	3 949	3 643
1978 1st quarter	−218	−518	8 454	8 972	+300 [1]	n.a.	n.a.
1977 October	+155	+53	2 756	2 703	+102 [2]	Monthly figures of credits and debits are not available	
November	+170	+68	2 668	2 600	+102 [2]		
December	+26	−76	2 780	2 856	+102 [2]		
1978 January	−234	−334	2 625	2 959	+100 [1]		
February	+180	+80	2 999	2 919	+100 [1]		
March	−164	−264	2 830	3 094	+100 [1]		

[1] Projections, subject to revision as information becomes available. [2] One-third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate; monthly figures of invisibles not available.

Table 2 Current balance, visible trade and invisible trade

Balance of payments basis

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible trade: Visible balance	Visible trade: Exports fob	Visible trade: Imports fob	Invisible balance
1976	−1 107	−3 510	25 422	28 932	+2 403
1977	−35	−1 612	32 176	33 788	+1 577
1976 1st quarter	−47	−543	5 655	6 198	+496
2nd quarter	−345	−909	6 171	7 080	+564
3rd quarter	−377	−1 097	6 499	7 596	+720
4th quarter	−338	−961	7 097	8 058	+623
1977 1st quarter	−505	−347	7 502	8 449	+442
2nd quarter	−364	−764	7 930	8 694	+400
3rd quarter	+483	+54	8 540	8 486	+429
4th quarter	+351	+45	8 204	8 159	+306
1978 1st quarter p	−218	−518	8 454	8 972	+300 [1]
1977 October	+155	+53	2 756	2 703	+102 [2]
November	+170	+68	2 668	2 600	+102 [2]
December	+26	−76	2 780	2 856	+102 [2]
1978 January	−234	−334	2 625	2 959	+100 [1]
February r	+180	+80	2 999	2 919	+100 [1]
March p	−164	−264	2 830	3 094	+100 [1]
Percentage change [3] 1st quarter on previous quarter			+3	+10	

[1] Projections, subject to revision as information becomes available. [2] One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate; monthly figures of invisibles are not available. [3] Percentage change: latest three months on previous three months. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 3 Invisibles

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Invisibles: Total: Balance	Total: Credits	Total: Debits	of which private sector and public corporations [1]: Balance	Credits	Debits
1976	+2 403	14 088	11 685	+4 673	12 944	8 271
1977	+1 577	15 596	14 019	+4 273	14 189	9 916
1976 1st quarter	+496	3 167	2 671	+1 003	2 894	1 891
2nd quarter	+564	3 373	2 809	+1 110	3 095	1 985
3rd quarter	+720	3 687	2 967	+1 279	3 377	2 098
4th quarter	+623	3 861	3 238	+1 281	3 578	2 297
1977 1st quarter	+442	3 773	3 331	+1 112	3 484	2 372
2nd quarter	+400	3 874	3 474	+1 091	3 574	2 483
3rd quarter	+429	4 000	3 571	+1 099	3 630	2 531
4th quarter	+306	3 949	3 643	+971	3 501	2 530
1978 January	+100 [2]	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
February	+100 [2]					
March	+100 [2]					

[1] ie excluding general government transactions and all transfers. [2] See note [1] of table 2. n.a. Not available.

from the low level of the previous quarter. With the export unit value index rising by 1 per cent in the first quarter and the import unit value index falling by 1½ per cent, the terms of trade index rose by 2½ per cent.

INVISIBLES (table 3)

The surplus on invisibles – services, interest, profits and dividends and transfers – is projected to be running currently at £100 million a month. The latest estimates of invisibles relate to the fourth quarter of 1977 when credits were £3,949 million and debits £3,643 million, giving a surplus of £306 million for the quarter (a monthly average of £102 million). Invisibles of the private sector and public corporations, excluding transfers, were in surplus by £971 million in the fourth quarter (a monthly average of £324 million).

Area and commodity analysis of visible trade on an overseas trade statistics basis

EXPORTS

By area (table 7)

In the first quarter, the value of exports to the developed countries rose by 4½ per cent in comparison with the previous quarter. Deliveries to the EEC rose by 4½ per cent, while the value of shipments to the rest of western Europe increased marginally. Exports to north America increased by 8 per cent, partly reflecting low exports in the fourth quarter resulting from the US east coast docks strike, and shipments to the other developed countries rose by 7 per cent. Exports to the developing countries showed a marginal increase in the first quarter; deliveries to the oil exporting countries were 4½ per cent higher, while shipments to the other developing countries were down by 3 per cent. The value of shipments to the centrally planned economies were up by 46 per cent, with high deliveries in the first quarter and depressed exports in the fourth quarter.

By commodity (tables 8, 9, 10 and 16)

The value of exports of manufactured goods in the first quarter was 3 per cent higher than in the previous quarter with a rise by volume of 2 per cent. Within this broad group of commodities, exports of machinery were down by 1 per cent in value and by 4 per cent in volume. The value of exports of road vehicles increased by 2 per cent with a similar rise in volume. Chemical exports recovered a

Table 4 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers

Balance of payments basis — Indices 1975 = 100

	Unit value (Not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (Seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports	Imports	Terms of trade [1]	Exports	Imports
1976	120.6	121.9	98.9	109.9	105.5
1977	142.4	141.4	100.7	118.9	107.0
1976 1st quarter	109.7	109.9	99.8	106.2	100.3
2nd quarter	115.9	118.4	97.9	109.9	106.0
3rd quarter	122.9	124.5	98.7	110.0	108.3
4th quarter	130.2	133.8	97.3	113.5	107.3
1977 1st quarter	136.1	137.5	99.0	115.7	109.1
2nd quarter	141.7	141.3	100.3	118.0	109.8
3rd quarter	145.5	144.0	101.0	124.1	106.4
4th quarter	147.6	144.2	102.4	117.9	102.6
1978 1st quarter p	149.1	142.0	105.0	121.1	114.0
1977 October	147.4	144.9	101.7	119.4	101.3
November	147.2	143.8	102.4	115.3	98.4
December	148.3	143.8	103.1	118.9	108.1
1978 January	149.1	141.4	105.4	112.6	114.4
February r	148.5	141.8	104.7	128.7	110.7
March p	149.6	142.7	104.8	121.9	117.0
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+1	−1½	+2½	+2½	+11

[1] Export unit value index as a percentage of the import unit value index.

Table 5 Balance of trade in oil and in other goods

Balance of payments basis — £ million seasonally adjusted

	Visible balance		
	Total trade	Trade in oil [1]	Trade in other goods
1976	−3 510	−3 973	+463
1977	−1 612	−2 804	+1 192
1976 1st quarter	−543	−947	+404
2nd quarter	−909	−968	+59
3rd quarter	−1 097	−1 058	−39
4th quarter	−961	−1 000	+39
1977 1st quarter	−947	−800	−147
2nd quarter	−764	−745	−19
3rd quarter	+54	−602	+656
4th quarter	+45	−657	+702
1978 1st quarter p	−518	−646	+128
1977 October	+53	−228	+281
November	+68	−154	+222
December	−76	−275	+199
1978 January	−334	−236	−98
February	+80	−202	+282
March p	−264	−208	−56

[1] Trade in petroleum and petroleum products.

Table 6 Trade in oil[2]

Balance of payments basis — Seasonally adjusted

	Balance of trade in oil	Exports of oil			Imports of oil				
		Total	Crude oil [1] [SITC (rev 2) 333.0]	Rest of division 33	Total	Crude oil [SITC (rev 2) 333.0]			Rest of division 33
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	million tonnes	Average value per tonne £ fob	£ million fob
1976	−3 973	1 172	178	994	5 145	4 089	87.0	47.0	1 056
1977	−2 804	1 965	904	1 061	4 769	3 681	68.6	53.7	1 088
1976 1st quarter	−947	221	18	203	1 168	925	21.8	42.7	243
2nd quarter	−968	266	24	242	1 234	962	21.1	45.8	272
3rd quarter	−1 058	307	45	262	1 365	1 080	22.2	48.8	285
4th quarter	−1 000	378	91	287	1 378	1 122	21.9	51.1	256
1977 1st quarter	−800	454	163	291	1 254	1 006	19.1	53.0	248
2nd quarter	−745	516	239	277	1 261	988	18.2	54.3	273
3rd quarter	−602	560	300	260	1 162	880	16.2	54.3	282
4th quarter	−657	435	202	233	1 092	807	15.1	53.2	285
1978 1st quarter p	−646	468	268	200	1 114	864	17.3	49.9	250
1977 October	−228	146	61	85	374	281	5.2	54.0	93
November	−154	147	72	75	301	203	3.8	53.1	98
December	−275	142	69	73	417	323	6.1	52.7	94
1978 January	−236	149	81	68	385	313	6.1	50.9	72
February	−202	153	94	59	355	269	5.4	49.7	86
March p	−208	166	93	73	374	282	5.8	49.0	92
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr		+7½	+33	−14	+2	+7	+15	−6½	−12

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Trade in petroleum and petroleum products.

Table 6a Value and volume of exports and imports excluding the more erratic items[1]

Balance of payments basis — Seasonally adjusted

	Exports fob		Imports fob	
	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	23 468	109.4	27 039	106.9
1977	29 501	118.0	31 108	107.4
1976 1st quarter	5 269	106.7	5 858	102 8
2nd quarter	5 639	108.5	6 479	105.2
3rd quarter	6 030	110.0	7 090	109.6
4th quarter	6 530	112.5	7 612	110.0
1977 1st quarter	6 929	115.1	7 927	111.1
2nd quarter	7 276	117.2	7 734	106.8
3rd quarter	7 792	122.7	7 909	108.2
4th quarter	7 504	116.9	7 538	103.6
1978 1st quarter p	7 834	121.4	8 346	115.7
1977 October	2 509	117.8	2 542	103.9
November	2 421	113.4	2 371	98.3
December	2 574	119.7	2 625	108.5
1978 January	2 440	113.4	2 873	120.7
February r	2 747	127.4	2 643	109.7
March p	2 647	123.2	2 830	116.6
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4½	+4	+11	+12

[1] These are defined as ships, North Sea production installations, aircraft and precious stones.

little, rising by 1½ per cent in both value and volume. Shipments of metals rose by 7½ per cent in value and by 4½ per cent in volume, following falls in the previous quarter. Textile exports rose by 5 per cent in value and by 6½ per cent in volume. Trade in other manufactured goods increased by 6½ per cent in both value and volume; excluding precious stones the increases were 7½ per cent and 5½ per cent, respectively. Exports of non-manufactured goods in total rose by 11 per cent in the first quarter. Within this category, shipments of food, beverages and tobacco were up by 18 per cent in value and by 19 per cent in volume, after having been broadly unchanged during the second half of last year. The value of deliveries of basic materials fell by 4½ per cent, with volume marginally down. Fuel exports, which had fallen sharply in the fourth quarter, recovered somewhat rising by 8½ per cent in value and by 17 per cent in volume.

IMPORTS

By area (table 11)

In the first quarter, the value of imports from the developed countries was 9 per cent higher than in the previous quarter. Deliveries from

Table 7 Exports by area

Overseas trade statistics basis — £ million fob seasonally adjusted

		Developed countries					Developing countries			
	Total	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Total	Oil-exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976	26 024	18 612	9 249	4 298	3 116	1 949	6 630	3 221	3 409	726
1977	33 308	23 689	12 128	5 594	3 863	2 104	8 613	4 368	4 245	910
1977 1st quarter	7 716	5 539	2 813	1 300	902	525	1 925	1 026	899	207
2nd quarter	8 272	5 972	3 044	1 446	957	525	2 103	1 074	1 029	245
3rd quarter	8 829	6 290	3 161	1 506	1 083	541	2 213	1 132	1 081	258
4th quarter	8 491	5 888	3 110	1 342	922	513	2 372	1 135	1 236	200
1978 1st quarter p	8 850	6 141	3 246	1 350	996	548	2 383	1 186	1 197	293
1978 January	2 772	1 975	1 015	465	332	162	746	386	359	70
February r	3 108	2 166	1 142	490	342	192	836	406	430	90
March p	2 970	2 000	1 089	396	322	194	801	393	408	133
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+4	+4½	+4½	+½	+8	+7	+½	+4½	−3	+46

Table 8 Exports by commodity

Overseas trade statistics basis — £ million fob seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures [2]									
						Machinery and transport equipment [2]								
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other transport equipment [1,2]	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0+1	2+4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	79	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6+8	9
1976	26 024	1 692	735	1 265	21 616	10 383	6 994	2 377	1 012	3 007	2 362	972	4 892	715
1977	33 308	2 217	895	2 078	27 172	12 680	8 337	2 871	1 473	3 821	2 879	1 193	6 599	945
1977 1st quarter	7 716	494	228	482	6 263	2 863	1 925	669	270	879	699	298	1 543	214
2nd quarter	8 272	539	218	547	6 754	3 105	2 063	723	319	946	751	295	1 693	243
3rd quarter	8 829	591	232	588	7 189	3 394	2 128	736	530	1 029	742	309	1 634	244
4th quarter	8 491	593	218	462	6 966	3 318	2 221	744	354	967	688	292	1 730	244
1978 1st quarter p	8 850	699	208	500	7 177	3 319	2 193	760	366	980	738	307	1 840	232
1978 January	2 772	222	66	159	2 246	1 026	682	211	132	302	226	100	628	79
February r	3 108	243	69	162	2 546	1 168	771	279	118	351	258	104	645	70
March p	2 970	234	73	179	2 386	1 126	740	270	115	327	254	102	567	83
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+4	+18	−4½	+8½	+3	—	−1	+2	+3½	+1½	+7½	+5	+6½	−5

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Includes North Sea production installations.

the EEC increased by 7 per cent, with a sharp increase in arrivals in March, while imports from the rest of western Europe were up by 9½ per cent. Imports from north America rose by 19 per cent, reflecting low imports in the fourth quarter resulting from the US east coast docks strike together with increased deliveries of aircraft in the latest period. Imports from the other developed countries increased by 6 per cent. Imports from the developing countries were up by 8 per cent with rises of 13 per cent in arrivals from the oil exporting countries (from a depressed fourth quarter level) and of 4 per cent in deliveries from the other developing countries. There was a further fall – of 9½ per cent – in deliveries from the centrally planned economies.

By commodity (tables 12, 13, 14 and 17) In the first quarter, the volume of imports was

Table 9 Exports by commodity: volume indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures [1]							
						Machinery and transport equipment [1, 2]						
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manufactures
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6+ 8
Weights	1 000	71	26	41	828	419	287	92	107	92	36	174
1976	108.8	103	117	120	109	101	100	104	124	109	117	117
1977	118.9	111	125	164	118	105	102	105	141	117	120	135
1977 1st quarter	115.1	108	131	155	113	100	98	103	131	115	125	133
2nd quarter	118.7	109	118	170	118	105	102	106	141	121	120	136
3rd quarter	123.9	114	130	183	123	110	103	105	150	120	122	131
4th quarter	118.1	115	121	149	117	105	104	105	142	109	112	138
1978 1st quarter p	122.7	137	120	174	120	103	100	107	144	115	120	147
1978 January	114.9	133	109	161	112	95	93	87	134	106	118	149
February	129.3	143	120	171	127	109	105	117	154	119	121	157
March p	123.8	135	132	191	119	105	101	116	145	119	120	136
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4	+19	−½	+17	+2	−2	−4	+2	+1½	+4½	+6½	+6½

[1] Includes North Sea production installations. [2] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 10 Exports by commodity: unit value indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 not seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment [1]						
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manufactures
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6 + 8
1976	120.7	115	124	126	121	122	122	123	114	119	115	124
1977	142.5	137	144	150	143	149	148	152	128	136	139	142
1977 1st quarter	136.2	131	143	144	136	139	139	142	127	133	133	137
2nd quarter	142.0	140	152	149	142	145	144	150	129	137	137	146
3rd quarter	145.7	143	146	153	146	152	151	155	130	136	142	147
4th quarter	147.5	140	139	150	149	157	156	160	131	137	145	145
1978 1st quarter p	148.8	143	135	141	150	161	159	161	129	142	145	144
1978 January	148.9	140	136	145	150	160	159	161	130	142	145	145
February	148.2	142	134	140	150	160	159	160	129	142	146	143
March p	149.2	145	136	139	151	161	160	162	129	142	144	144
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+1	+1½	−2½	−5½	+1	+2	+2½	+½	−1	+3½	+½	−1

[1] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 11 Imports by area

Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million cif seasonally adjusted

		Developed countries					Developing countries			
	Total	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Total	Oil-exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976	31 569	22 569	11 510	4 645	4 280	2 134	7 860	4 296	3 564	1 109
1977	36 996	27 420	14 161	5 582	4 997	2 680	8 167	3 804	4 362	1 357
1977 1st quarter	9 169	6 608	3 380	1 300	1 259	668	2 157	1 032	1 125	302
2nd quarter	9 601	7 212	3 551	1 647	1 309	705	2 117	1 030	1 087	342
3rd quarter	9 239	6 767	3 601	1 218	1 328	620	2 065	924	1 141	371
4th quarter	8 987	6 833	3 629	1 416	1 101	687	1 828	819	1 009	342
1978 1st quarter p	9 868	7 461	3 874	1 550	1 308	728	1 975	925	1 050	310
1978 January	3 276	2 466	1 266	554	425	221	650	320	329	93
February r	3 159	2 343	1 221	486	415	221	665	296	370	124
March p	3 433	2 651	1 387	511	468	285	660	310	351	92
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+10	+9	+7	+9½	+19	+6	+8	+13	+4	−9½

sharply above the level in the previous quarter for most of the major commodity groups. Imports of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 14 per cent in value and 11 per cent in volume from depressed fourth quarter levels. Fuel deliveries rose by 3½ per cent in value and 9 per cent in volume, with a 5½ per cent fall in price reflecting the appreciation of sterling against the US dollar. Between the quarters, imports of industrial materials in total were up by 7½ per cent in value and 12 per cent in volume; excluding precious stones the in-

continued on page 177

Table 12 Imports by commodity

Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million cif seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures [2]						
									Machinery and transport equipment [2]					
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other transport equipment [1, 2]	Other	Miscellaneous
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2, 4, 5, 6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	79	8	9
1976	31 569	4 983	5 669	11 245	3 248	1 924	6 073	9 225	6 755	4 305	1 432	1 019	2 470	447
1977	36 996	5 945	5 252	13 491	3 612	2 365	7 513	11 803	8 780	5 298	2 133	1 349	3 023	505
1977 1st quarter	9 169	1 502	1 375	3 358	981	604	1 773	2 739	1 995	1 285	485	225	744	119
2nd quarter	9 601	1 561	1 377	3 462	888	593	1 981	3 086	2 346	1 297	496	553	741	122
3rd quarter	9 239	1 547	1 278	3 324	897	599	1 828	2 964	2 204	1 369	555	280	760	141
4th quarter	8 987	1 336	1 223	3 346	847	569	1 931	3 014	2 236	1 347	598	291	778	123
1978 1st quarter p	9 868	1 521	1 267	3 605	845	653	2 107	3 267	2 413	1 441	668	305	854	119
1978 January	3 276	543	435	1 180	281	229	670	1 048	751	485	213	53	297	38
February r	3 159	445	405	1 152	275	187	690	1 090	812	464	225	124	278	39
March p	3 433	533	426	1 274	290	237	747	1 129	850	492	230	128	278	42
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+10	+14	+3½	+7½	—	+15	+9	+8½	+8	+7	+12	+4½	+10	−3½

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Includes North Sea production installations.

Table 13 Imports by commodity: volume indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures [1]				
									Machinery and transport equipment [1, 2]			
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2, 4, 5, 6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	8
Weights	1 000	177	177	341	92	55	194	283	207	137	37	76
1976	106.4	102	100	112	119	122	106	109	108	104	127	110
1977	108.8	102	83	116	112	133	113	123	125	117	160	118
1977 1st quarter	109.5	105	87	117	122	137	109	118	117	116	148	120
2nd quarter	112.1	107	85	117	109	134	116	130	134	116	150	118
3rd quarter	108.0	104	80	114	111	135	110	123	125	119	168	116
4th quarter	105.5	92	78	117	109	128	117	123	125	116	177	118
1978 1st quarter p	117.3	102	85	130	116	153	131	132	131	126	174	133
1978 January	118.1	112	87	128	113	161	125	130	125	128	171	145
February r	112.4	89	82	125	114	130	129	131	132	121	176	129
March p	121.4	103	87	139	121	168	138	134	137	128	175	126
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+11	+11	+9	+12	+7	+20	+11	+7½	+5½	+8	−1½	+13

[1] Includes North Sea production installations. [2] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 14 Imports by commodity: unit value indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 not seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment [1]			
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2, 4, 5, 6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	8
1976	122.5	113	131	121	123	120	121	125	127	127	128	121
1977	141.6	132	148	141	145	140	140	144	146	144	155	139
1977 1st quarter	138.4	125	147	140	147	134	139	141	142	141	150	136
2nd quarter	142.0	130	150	144	149	140	143	143	145	143	153	139
3rd quarter	143.9	134	150	144	149	143	142	147	149	147	156	143
4th quarter	142.9	136	146	140	140	143	139	149	152	149	161	143
1978 1st quarter p	140.8	139	138	136	131	142	136	150	154	148	172	141
1978 January	140.4	137	140	136	134	141	135	148	153	148	168	143
February	140.5	139	137	135	130	141	136	150	154	148	172	141
March p	141.4	139	136	136	129	143	137	153	155	149	177	146
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	−1½	+1½	−5½	−3	−6½	−1	−2	+½	+1½	−½	+7	−1½

[1] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 15 Derivation of the visible trade figures on a balance of payments basis

£ million

	Exports				Imports				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted			
	Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Valuation and coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)	Overseas trade statistics basis (cif)	Overseas trade statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to bop basis		Balance of payments basis (fob)
							Valuation adjustments	Coverage adjustments	
1976	26 024	26 024	−602	25 422	31 569	31 569	−1 944	−693	28 932
1977	33 308	33 308	−1 132	32 176	36 996	36 996	−2 184	−1 024	33 788
1976 1st quarter	5 848	5 784	−129	5 655	6 846	6 763	−423	−142	6 198
2nd quarter	6 459	6 303	−132	6 171	7 927	7 753	−480	−193	7 080
3rd quarter	6 309	6 617	−118	6 499	7 873	8 208	−518	−94	7 596
4th quarter	7 408	7 320	−223	7 097	8 923	8 845	−523	−264	8 058
1977 1st quarter	7 809	7 716	−214	7 502	9 217	9 169	−577	−143	8 449
2nd quarter	8 463	8 272	−342	7 930	9 766	9 601	−590	−317	8 694
3rd quarter	8 486	8 829	−289	8 540	8 964	9 239	−536	−217	8 486
4th quarter	8 550	8 491	−287	8 204	9 049	8 987	−481	−347	8 159
1978 1st quarter p	8 753	8 850	−396	8 454	9 789	9 868	−538	−358	8 972
1977 October	2 837	2 855	−99	2 756	3 052	3 024	−160	−161	2 703
November	2 904	2 742	−74	2 668	2 944	2 804	−152	−52	2 600
December	2 808	2 894	−114	2 780	3 053	3 159	−169	−134	2 856
1978 January	2 702	2 772	−147	2 625	3 243	3 276	−182	−135	2 959
February r	2 933	3 108	−109	2 999	2 989	3 159	−166	−74	2 919
March p	3 118	2 970	−140	2 830	3 557	3 433	−190	−149	3 094
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+2½	+4		+3	+8	+10			+10

Table 16 Exports: Value and volume indices excluding the more erratic items

Overseas trade statistics basis — Seasonally adjusted

	Total [1]		Manufactures					
			Total [1]		Machinery and transport equipment [2]		Other manufactures [3]	
	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	23 705	108.1	19 297	108	9 407	101	3 549	115
1977	29 852	116.8	23 717	115	11 245	102	4 578	128
1977 1st quarter	7 008	113.9	5 555	112	2 595	99	1 102	128
2nd quarter	7 356	116.0	5 837	115	2 792	103	1 090	124
3rd quarter	7 889	121.5	6 249	120	2 885	104	1 203	132
4th quarter	7 600	115.9	6 075	114	2 974	104	1 184	129
1978 1st quarter p	7 931	120.2	6 259	116	2 966	101	1 275	136
1978 January	2 472	112.3	1 946	108	896	92	457	146
February r	2 781	126.2	2 219	123	1 054	108	433	140
March p	2 678	122.0	2 093	117	1 015	105	385	122
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4½	+3½	+3	+1½	−½	−2½	+7½	+5½

[1] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations, aricraft and precious stones. [2] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations and aircraft. [3] Excluding precious stones.

Table 17 Imports: Value and volume indices excluding the more erratic items

Overseas trade statistics basis — Seasonally adjusted

	Total [1]		Industrial materials				Finished manufactures			
			Total [3]		Other semi-manufactures [3]		Total [2]		Machinery and transport equipment [2]	
	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	29 399	106.6	10 081	114	4 909	108	8 219	110	5 748	109
1977	33 818	107.5	11 644	114	5 666	109	10 471	124	7 449	126
1977 1st quarter	8 624	110.8	3 034	119	1 450	112	2 518	122	1 773	122
2nd quarter	8 443	106.9	2 856	111	1 375	104	2 534	121	1 794	123
3rd quarter	8 593	108.4	2 951	116	1 455	112	2 691	126	1 931	130
4th quarter	8 158	103.7	2 803	112	1 387	108	2 728	126	1 951	129
1978 1st quarter p	9 027	115.7	3 061	126	1 563	122	2 971	135	2 117	136
1978 January	3 099	120.4	1 054	129	544	128	998	140	700	137
February r	2 859	109.7	974	120	512	120	969	132	691	133
March p	3 069	116.9	1 034	128	507	118	1 004	134	726	138
Percentage change 1st qtr on previous qtr	+11	+12	+9	+12	+13	+13	+9	+7½	+8½	+5½

[1] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations, aircraft and precious stones. [2] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations and aircraft. [3] Excluding precious stones

creases were 9 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. Within this group, imports of basic materials were unchanged in value but increased by 7 per cent in volume, with the fall in price reflecting the further easing in commodity prices. The value of chemical imports rose by 15 per cent in value and 20 per cent in volume, following falls in the previous quarter. Deliveries of other semi-manufactures increased by 9 per cent and 11 per cent in value and volume, respectively; excluding precious stones the increase would have been 13 per cent in both value and volume. Arrivals of finished manufactures rose by 8½ per cent in value and 7½ per cent in volume. Within finished manufactures, imports of machinery increased by 7 per cent in value and 8 per cent in volume. Deliveries of road vehicles rose by 12 per cent in value, although volume fell by 1½ per cent. Imports of other finished manufactures (which includes certain consumer goods) increased by 10 per cent in value and 13 per cent in volume.

Notes

Standard notes on definitions and coverage of the figures were published in *Trade and Industry*, 17 February.

Inquiries: Economics and Statistics Division 5A, Room 234, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5703 or 3385.

Overseas trade analysed in terms of industries: first and second quarters 1977

United Kingdom overseas trade for the first and second quarters 1977 is analysed in the table in terms of industries (as defined by the standard industrial classification), in contrast to the standard overseas trade statistics classification.

Every commodity heading in the trade statistics has been reclassified according to the industry of which the commodity is the principal product.

This series of statistics, derived from the basic material of the overseas trade statistics, was first presented in an article in the February 1975 issue of *Economic Trends*. The article discussed the uses and limitations of this alternative form of presenting trade data together with figures for the years 1970 to 1973.

Business Monitor

In November of 1975 the first Business Monitor on this subject (M 10) extended the series to the year 1974; in August 1976 the series was brought up to 1975; in September 1977 the series was brought up to 1976, showing the figures for that year and its four quarters. Information for the first and second quarters 1977 and revised data for 1976 and its four quarters will be published in a further Business Monitor on 28 April 1978 and will cover 132 separate industries (MLHs), grouped under 20 industrial orders, figures for which are given in the summary table below.

Inquiries: 01-212 8815.

Overseas trade analysed in terms of industries: 1st and 2nd quarters 1977

Current prices

SIC order no. and industry	1st qtr p		2nd qtr p	
	Imports £m cif	Exports £m fob	Imports £m cif	Exports £m fob
I Agriculture, forestry and fishing	737.1	121.5	744.7	82.8
II Mining and quarrying	1 335.8	206.5	1 258.6	288.9
III Food, drink and tobacco	1 095.1	444.6	1 144.3	471.7
IV Coal and petroleum products	285.4	293.8	286.4	259.2
V Chemicals and allied industries	666.4	966.9	651.1	1 041.8
VI Metal manufacture	528.2	411.3	551.7	444.4
VII Mechanical engineering	564.8	1 076.3	545.9	1 110.6
VIII Instrument engineering	178.6	197.7	176.4	189.3
IX Electrical engineering	613.4	704.8	618.4	751.1
X Shipbuilding and marine engineering	16.8	58.9	98.5	108.3
XI Vehicles	741.2	1 049.0	775.9	1 176.1
XII Metal goods not elsewhere specified	524.8	762.3	806.0	950.0
XIII Textiles	422.5	389.3	395.1	391.6
XIV Leather, leather goods and furs	54.2	51.2	53.9	52.4
XV Clothing and footwear	219.6	110.2	186.7	114.1
XVI Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc	62.9	121.8	66.8	135.1
XVII Timber, furnitures, etc	245.0	50.1	246.4	60.8
XVIII Paper, printing and publishing	394.6	159.7	384.5	168.3
XIX Other manufacturing industries	158.0	197.7	168.6	213.7
XXI Gas and electricity	—	0	—	0
Miscellaneous [1]	57.7	56.9	75.8	75.3
Residual heading	187.4	243.8	434.2	276.8
Total UK trade	9 089.5	7 674.3	9 669.9	8 362.3

Imports and exports of certain restricted items are not included in industry totals but in the residual heading.

[1] The miscellaneous heading includes paintings, sculptures, antiques, stamps of philatelic interest, cinematograph film, photographic prints, etc. p Provisional.

Engineering sales and orders up to January

SIC orders VII, VIII and IX

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume indices of engineering sales and orders up to January suggest there may have been a check in the slowly declining trend of sales in January in both home and export market. Total new orders maintained their modest improvement, which was attributable to the intake of domestic contracts, whilst the level of order books was practically unchanged.

New orders received from the home market (net of cancellations) increased in trend during the latter half of 1977, and by 3½ per cent between October and January, but this improvement represents little more than a recovery of ground lost early in 1977. The increase of 2 per cent in the trend of home sales during the three months to January arose partly from a high January figure, on which too much reliance should not yet be placed, though information recently received suggests that sales in December were also higher than previously thought. The overall picture is of declining sales throughout 1977 to a low point in the final quarter, with a possible check around the turn of the year. As the inflow of domestic orders in recent months was higher than the rate of deliveries, orders-on-hand rose slightly from the trough, lengthening by about 2 per cent between the end of October and January.

The high December intake of export contracts does not appear to have been repeated in January, and the trend fell by 3 per cent between October and January. This continues the decline which commenced around the end of 1976, as growth in world trade failed to materialise; however, in many areas important export contracts have been, and continue to be negotiated.

After rising moderately from mid-1976 to late last summer, there was some slackening in the rate of export deliveries; although the most recent trend estimates suggest some resumption of growth during the three months to January, this was entirely due to an exceptionally high January figure which may not be repeated. Owing to the variable intake of new orders and the rate of sales, order books have fluctuated but the overall tendency has been for little change for several months.

The combined effect of these movements in the home and export series produced a rise of 1½ per cent in the trends of both total new orders and total sales. The total intake of new orders for the combined engineering industries slightly exceeded the level of sales,

Volume index numbers for the combined engineering industries up to January

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	6.7			6.3			7.6		
Trend estimates									
1976 p									
January	95	92	105	89	87	99	110	105	121
February	94	93	105	87	88	99	108	106	122
March	92	94	105	86	89	99	107	108	122
April	91	95	105	84	90	99	105	111	122
May	89	97	106	83	91	100	104	114	121
June	89	100	105	81	92	100	104	120	120
July	88	103	105	80	93	100	106	128	120
August	88	105	105	80	94	99	108	135	120
September	89	107	105	79	95	99	110	140	121
October	89	109	106	79	97	100	113	141	122
November	89	109	107	78	98	100	115	139	123
December	90	109	107	78	99	101	117	137	123
1977 p									
January	90	109	107	78	100	101	118	135	123
February	90	108	107	77	100	101	119	132	124
March	90	107	107	77	99	100	120	130	125
April	90	106	107	77	98	99	120	128	126
May	90	106	107	77	97	99	120	129	128
June	90	105	107	77	97	98	120	128	129
July	90	105	106	76	96	98	120	128	130
August	90	105	106	76	97	97	119	128	130
September	90	106	106	76	87	97	119	127	129
October	90	106	105	77	99	97	119	127	128
November	90	107	106	77	100	97	119	125	128
December	90	107	106	77	101	98	118	124	128
1978									
January p	90	108	107	78	102	99	118	123	129
Percentage change [2] Oct 1977-Jan 1978	+0.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+3.5	+2.0	−0.5	−3.0	+1.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1970	99	100	100	99	100	100	99	101	100
1971	90	94	99	92	96	99	83	90	100
1972	96	104	100	100	107	103	89	96	92
1973	127	129	111	127	129	114	128	128	103
1974	128	115	115	122	110	113	142	128	119
1975	97	93	110	90	89	106	112	103	121
1976 p	90	101	105	77	93	99	117	124	121
1977 p	91	107	106	78	99	99	120	129	127
1976 p									
1st qtr	93	94	104	86	89	98	107	109	122
2nd	88	96	106	81	91	101	102	107	121
3rd	88	106	105	79	95	100	108	134	120
4th	90	109	105	77	96	99	117	144	122
1977 p									
1st qtr	90	109	108	77	101	102	120	131	124
2nd	90	105	106	76	96	98	120	129	128
3rd	89	107	107	76	98	98	120	130	131
4th	91	107	104	78	100	96	120	125	125
1976 p									
January	95	95	107	89	92	100	110	106	124
February	94	97	103	88	89	97	110	117	120
March	93	91	103	86	85	96	107	106	121
April	91	95	108	84	91	102	105	104	123
May	89	98	112	82	93	106	103	111	128
June	88	94	100	81	89	95	102	106	112
July	89	109	104	80	92	98	107	154	119
August	89	105	105	80	95	100	108	132	119
September	88	103	106	79	97	101	108	118	121
October	89	115	107	78	97	101	113	162	124
November	90	112	105	78	97	98	117	150	122
December	90	100	105	77	93	99	117	121	120
1977 p									
January	90	113	111	78	106	105	117	132	129
February	90	112	108	78	104	103	118	134	123
March	90	103	104	77	94	98	120	128	120
April	90	110	108	77	99	100	121	138	129
May	91	106	105	77	97	97	121	129	126
June	90	99	107	76	92	98	120	120	130
July	89	105	108	76	101	99	117	114	133
August	90	113	106	77	100	97	120	149	128
September	89	102	106	76	93	97	120	127	131
October	90	107	106	76	99	97	119	128	131
November	89	100	101	77	97	93	117	108	122
December	91	115	104	78	106	98	120	139	121
1978									
January p	90	107	113	78	103	104	117	118	140
Aug-Oct 1977 (av.)	90	107	106	76	97	97	119	135	130
Nov 1977-Jan 1978 (av.)	90	107	106	78	102	98	117	122	128
Percentage change [2]	+0.5	—	—	+2.0	+4.5	+1.0	−2.0	−9.5	−2.0

Notes to table

[1] This ratio shows the number of months work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales. [2] For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point. p Provisional.

causing a marginal lengthening of total order books, but these have shown no marked tendency to change for well over a year.

There has been a number of revisions to all series this month, affecting both the quarterly and, more markedly, the monthly figures; however the overall path and long-term view are unchanged. These revisions arose mainly from the introduction of new seasonal factors which emerged when the seasonal adjustment process was run on the updated series; at the same time the opportunity was taken to incorporate a few corrections to the data arising from late or revised reporting.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the monthly engineering inquiry relating to January 1978. The response rate of 74 per cent to the inquiry for January 1978 is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for October, November and December 1977, response rates for these months were 90, 88 and 85 per cent respectively.

An expanded commentary, together with additional tables, is given in Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £3.06 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 618, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 5770.

Retail sales: provisional estimate for March

Volume

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in March is 106 (1971 = 100), a little below the February figure but higher than that for January.

While the monthly movement has been erratic, trade in the first quarter has risen to a level 1½ per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of last year, and 2 per cent higher than the average for 1977.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the *provisional* estimate of the value of retail sales in March was 14 per cent higher than in March 1977. In the first quarter of 1978, the average value of sales was 13 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1977.

Retail sales: volume and value

	Volume seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Value not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier
1976		**1976**	
4th	105.9	4th	+16
1977		**1977**	
1st qtr	103.3	1st qtr	+14
2nd	102.5	2nd	+13
3rd	104.3	3rd	+15
4th	104.4	4th	+13
1978		**1978**	
1st qtr	105.9 p	1st qtr	+13 p
1976		**1976**	
Dec	105.2	Dec	+16
1977		**1977**	
Jan	104.5	Jan	+13
Feb	104.0	Feb	+15
Mar	101.7	Mar	+14
Dec	106.9	Dec	+16
1978		**1978**	
Jan	104.9	Jan	+12
Feb	106.8	Feb	+13
Mar	106 p	Mar	+14 p

p Provisional

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest half per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

Estimates are based on early returns to the monthly inquiry. These returns cover approaching one half, by turnover, of information available at the final stage. Past evidence suggests that the average error (ignoring sign) in the provisional estimates will be about 0.5 per cent. However, as with all estimates based on partial data, caution must be exercised in interpreting a single month's figures.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments for the timing of holidays and adjustments to make allowances for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. No adjustments are made to the non-seasonally adjusted data.

The final figures for March will be published in a press notice on Tuesday, 9 May 1978.

Inquiries: 01-215 3705

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SD 8	Instalment credit business of retailers for February 1978

Index of retail prices for March

The index of retail prices for all items for 14 March was 191.8 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.6 per cent on February 1978 (190.6) and of 9.1 per cent on March 1977 (175.8).

The rise in the index in March was due mainly to increases in the prices of alcoholic drinks, cars, some foods, particularly vegetables, and to small increases over a wide range of goods and services.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in table 2.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext. 630.

Table 2 Index of retail prices: commodity breakdown

	Indices (15 Jan 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	14 Feb 1978	14 Mar 1978	
All items	190.6	191.8	+0.6
All items excluding food	188.8	189.9	+0.6
Food	197.3	198.4	+0.6
Seasonal food	174.5	179.0	+2.6
Other food	201.7	202.2	+0.2
Alcoholic drink	191.0	194.8	+2.0
Tobacco	222.8	222.8	+0.0
Housing	162.1	162.3	+0.1
Fuel and light	221.1	222.0	+0.4
Durable household goods	177.1	178.8	+1.0
Clothing and footwear	167.1	167.9	+0.5
Transport and vehicles	201.1	201.8	+0.3
Miscellaneous goods	199.8	200.5	+0.4
Services	187.7	188.8	+0.6
Meals out	200.6	201.7	+0.5

Table 1 Index of retail prices

	All items				All items except seasonal foods		
	Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months	12 months	Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months
1977							
October	186.5	+0.4	+3.4	+14.1	187.3	+0.6	+4.8
November	187.4	+0.5	+3.1	+13.0	188.2	+0.5	+4.3
December	188.4	+0.5	+2.6	+12.1	189.0	+0.4	+3.6
1978							
January	189.5	+0.6	+3.1	+9.9	190.2	+0.6	+3.7
February	190.6	+0.6	+3.2	+9.5	191.4	+0.6	+3.5
March	191.8	+0.6	+3.3	+9.1	192.4	+0.5	+3.3

Price Commission index in March

The rise in the Price Commission index over the six months to March was 7.5 per cent expressed as an annual rate. The corresponding figure for February was 7.3 per cent.

The value of the price increases notified by the larger firms in March was at much the same level as in October and November 1977. The six-month change in the index was temporarily held down below the underlying trend while the period over which it was calculated included the changes in August and September 1977 when the level of notifications was exceptionally low (reasons for this were given in the commission's report for the period August to October 1977). The increases in these two months have dropped out of the six-month calculation to March 1978.

The Price Commission index is based on price increases proposed to the commission by larger concerns. They cannot make the increase until 28 days after notification and in practice the time lag may be greater than this.

Percentage changes over six-month periods in Price Commission index, retail price index and wholesale price index: annualised rates

Six months to	Price Commission index	Retail price index [1]	Wholesale price index [2]
1975			
April	27.4	29.5	26.6
May	21.5	36.0	29.2
June	*20.3*	*34.8*	*27.2*
July	19.0	32.1	22.8
August	15.5	31.4	21.0
September	*14.8*	*27.5*	*18.3*
October	16.1	21.8	16.5
November	19.3	14.9	12.8
December	*19.4*	*14.1*	*13.7*
1976			
January	*15.5*	*13.6*	*14.1*
February	*16.3*	*13.2*	*14.8*
March	16.6	12.6	14.6
April	*15.0*	*13.6*	*15.3*
May	12.0	13.3	16.6
June	13.1	12.6	16.0
July	12.6	12.9	15.2
August	12.4	13.2	16.1
September	*13.5*	*14.5*	*17.7*
October	16.9	14.4	18.3
November	19.3	14.2	19.3
December	*18.2*	*15.2*	*19.5*
1977			
January	18.2	18.0	24.1
February	*19.0*	*18.4*	*23.4*
March	20.8	18.7	22.8
April	17.4	19.7	23.3
May	16.1	20.0	22.6
June	15.0	19.6	22.4
July	14.3	15.6	17.8
August	11.5	14.9	16.7
September	7.8	14.1	15.2
October	7.3	9.9	12.6
November	5.8	8.7	9.6
December	6.0	7.4	8.5
1978			
January	5.9	7.2	8.7
February	7.3	7.2	8.5
March	7.5	..	8.5

[1] Excluding seasonal foods. [2] Manufactured products r Revised.

Inquiries: 01-222 8020 ext. 753.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks in January

In the three months ended January 1978 deliveries in the footwear industry were estimated to be 1 per cent lower on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis than in the three months ended October 1977. Net new orders were 70 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of January orders-on-hand were 18 per cent higher on the October 1977 level. The index of output in the three months ended January 1978 was 2 per cent lower than in the three months ended October 1977.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturer's deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditute, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor production series under the reference PQ 450.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (minimum list heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

The data on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC, employing 25 or more persons.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787

Index of output: orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

		Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
			Million pairs	£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs
1966			33.6					16.4			
1967			37.8		16.5			16.1			
1968		*113*	*41.6*		*17.3*			*17.0*			
1969		108	34.6		15.9			16.5			
1970		100	38.9		16.6			16.2			
1971		*108*	*32.5*	*55.7*	*15.7*			*16.2*		*23.8*	*19.4*
1972		104	29.5	59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973		108	46.2	85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974		*107*	*44.3*	*79.5*	*14.3*		*30.9*	*14.4*		*31.3*	*18.0*
1975		101	38.8	91.8	13.2		36.2	13.7		35.1	15.8
1976		101	46.8	132.9	13.8		42.8	13.1		39.4	14.4
1977		*108*	*45.8*	*145.4*	*13.5*		*50.0*	*13.6*		*49.0*	*16.0*
		Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1975	*1st quarter*	*105*	*36.2*	*63.2*	*11.9*	*11.3*	*31.3*	*14.6*	*14.4*	*36.7*	*18.3*
	2nd	95	41.2	82.4	14.0	13.4	36.8	12.3	13.3	30.4	23.1
	3rd	103	33.1	70.0	11.4	13.9	33.1	14.1	13.8	37.2	17.4
	4th	*101*	*38.8*	*91.8*	*15.5*	*14.2*	*43.4*	*13.6*	*13.3*	*36.1*	*15.8*
1976	1st quarter	100	42.6	89.2	14.6	13.9	38.9	13.3	13.0	39.8	19.0
	2nd	100	46.3	107.5	12.8	12.5	40.4	11.5	12.4	34.3	20.9
	3rd	99	36.9	89.7	10.0	12.1	34.7	13.2	12.8	40.7	17.2
	4th	104	46.8	132.9	17.6	16.5	57.3	14.3	14.0	42.9	14.4
1977	*1st quarter*	*106*	*57.6*	*140.9*	*17.4*	*17.1*	*51.7*	*13.8*	*13.6*	*49.0*	*14.7*
	2nd	107	57.4	154.2	12.7	11.9	48.2	12.8	13.7	43.7	17.2
	3rd p	106	48.4	111.4	10.6	13.2	35.9	13.6	13.3	50.2	14.1
	4th p	*113*	*45.8*	*145.4*	*13.3*	*13.7*	*64.2*	*14.2*	*14.0*	*52.9*	*16.0*
1976	January	103	38.9	98.2	13.2	15.5	33.9	13.1	13.7	37.6	
	February	*100*	*40.0*	*89.3*	*14.1*	*13.3*	*40.3*	*12.9*	*12.8*	*39.2*	
	March	96	42.6	89.2	16.5	12.9	42.5	13.9	12.4	42.6	
	April	100	43.2	94.4	12.2	9.5	39.7	11.6	12.2	34.5	
	May	100	48.0	108.4	15.9	14.8	47.0	11.1	12.5	33.0	
	June	99	46.3	107.5	10.2	13.2	34.4	11.8	12.4	35.3	
	July	*96*	*40.8*	*90.7*	*6.3*	*11.3*	*20.2*	*11.8*	*12.4*	*37.0*	
	August	98	38.1	87.9	8.8	11.7	33.7	11.4	12.3	36.6	
	September	104	36.9	89.7	15.1	13.4	50.3	16.2	13.9	48.5	
	October	103	44.9	111.7	23.6	18.2	67.6	15.6	13.8	45.7	
	November	101	45.9	126.0	15.6	13.1	59.1	14.6	13.2	44.8	
	December	108	46.8	132.9	13.6	18.2	45.0	12.6	15.0	38.1	
1977	January	102	51.8	133.8	16.8	20.9	42.7	11.9	12.9	41.8	
	February	107	54.2	136.9	16.4	15.5	52.6	14.0	13.8	49.5	
	March	108	57.6	140.9	19.1	14.9	59.7	15.6	13.9	55.7	
	April	104	60.4	153.5	14.8	12.0	53.0	12.0	13.2	40.3	
	May	111	62.6	164.0	15.8	14.1	56.4	13.7	14.7	45.9	
	June	106	57.4	154.2	7.5	9.8	35.2	12.7	13.2	45.0	
	July p	100	54.7	136.8	9.2	17.3	25.3	11.9	13.1	42.6	
	August p	109	48.1	125.0	6.6	8.4	36.9	13.2	13.5	48.7	
	September p	109	48.4	111.4	15.9	14.0	45.6	15.6	13.4	59.2	
	October p	114	45.7	131.7	13.1	10.0	78.1	15.7	13.9	57.9	
	November p	112	42.4	137.8	11.8	9.9	63.1	15.2	13.7	57.0	
	December p	114	45.8	145.4	15.1	21.1	51.3	11.6	14.4	43.7	
1978	January p	100	54.3	141.1	20.5	24.4	44.7	12.0	12.5[1]	49.0	

p Provisional.
[1] Based on early returns, seasonally adjusted deliveries in February are expected to be 13 million pairs.

Wholesale price indices in March

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by ½ per cent in March to 280.4 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was also ½ per cent higher. This index increased by 3 per cent in the latest three months.

More than half of the 1 per cent increase in March in the index for bricks, cement, etc, industries was accounted for by cement and pre-cast concrete products. Vitreous china sanitary ware was responsible for almost half of the ½ per cent increase in the pottery and glass industries index.

Higher prices for construction and earth-moving equipment were the main contributors to the ¾ per cent increase in the index for the mechanical engineering industries. Widespread price rises were responsible for the increases of 1 per cent and ¾ per cent in the indices for the electrical engineering and the metal goods industries respectively. The index for the instrument engineering industries showed little change in March.

The indices for all other sectors rose by either ¼ or ½ per cent.

Lower prices for tea limited the increase in the index for the output of the food manufacturing industries to ¼ per cent in March. This index increased by 1½ per cent in the latest three months.

The change in the index for all manufactured products measured over a 12-month

More about wholesale price indices

Tables 1, 1a and 2	**01-215 3544**
Tables 3a and 4a	
engineering	**01-215 3549**
chemicals, steel, building materials, etc	**01-215 5216**
textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc	**01-215 3548**
Tables 3b, 4b and 5	**01-215 3173**

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Table 1 Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977				1978	1977						1978		
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr p	Mar	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb p	Mar p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	341.5	347.7	340.5	330.6	326.6	347.2	338.8	338.1	333.8	329.9	328.0	324.9	324.1	330.7
	Materials [1]	351.6	356.1	347.6	336.6	331.5	357.3	345.8	344.9	340.2	335.8	333.7	329.9	329.1	335.5
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	244.8	267.8	273.0	273.3	279.1	250.7	273.0	273.0	273.1	273.3	273.6	276.6	276.6	284.2
Orders IV to XIX	*Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries:*	355.8	359.0	355.8	345.2	335.8	359.4	354.6	353.9	349.9	344.1	341.6	333.1	333.0	341.3
	Materials [1]	371.6	372.0	367.7	355.5	343.9	374.9	366.3	365.4	360.9	354.2	351.3	341.2	341.0	349.4
Order III	Materials and fuel purchased by the food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	303.0	320.1	309.8	303.8	310.9	311.6	307.8	307.3	303.8	303.9	303.7	310.8	309.3	312.5
	Materials and fuels purchased by selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	*Food manufacturing industries:*	309.4	322.9	308.0	302.7	310.6	320.2	304.9	305.0	302.2	303.0	302.8	311.2	309.0	311.7
	Materials	310.3	323.4	307.8	302.3	310.5	321.4	304.6	304.7	301.8	302.6	302.4	311.1	308.8	311.5
	Fuel [2]	283.7	309.1	312.2	311.6	314.9	287.7	311.9	311.4	311.4	311.6	311.7	313.4	313.4	318.0
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	*Food manufacturing industries (excluding* animal and poultry foods)	307.1	321.2	308.0	302.4	309.3	319.4	304.9	305.4	302.0	302.9	302.2	309.7	307.8	310.5
Order V	*Chemicals and allied industries*	319.3	330.4	327.0	326.7	325.9	323.6	326.0	326.5	327.7	325.6	326.7	323.3	324.1	330.3
311 and 312	Steel industries	303.7	319.7	324.4	327.2	324.1	306.3	325.0	326.5	326.8	328.4	326.3	323.9	323.3	325.0
321 to 323	Non-ferrous metals industry	222.3	220.0	213.6	213.9	203.4	229.3	212.1	212.5	215.4	211.8	214.4	206.2	201.4	202.5
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	*Mechanical engineering industries*	283.7	289.1	294.9	301.7	306.3	285.7	295.1	296.9	301.3	301.5	302.2	305.1	305.7	308.0
Order IX	*Electrical engineering industries*	249.2	252.3	251.4	254.6	256.5	253.3	250.5	252.3	254.8	253.6	255.5	256.5	255.5	257.5
Order X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering industries	275.9	281.7	285.4	294.2	296.7	278.2	285.5	285.8	293.8	294.3	294.6	296.2	296.7	297.3
Order XII	*Metal goods industries*	298.2	302.6	305.8	312.4	316.8	302.8	305.1	309.0	313.5	312.4	311.3	313.7	316.0	320.8
Order XIII	Textile industries	298.6	297.1	290.3	286.9	288.4	297.8	289.6	287.4	288.8	285.2	286.8	284.8	287.5	292.8
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	240.9	246.9	249.3	250.4	253.7	242.5	249.0	249.8	250.0	250.3	250.9	253.1	253.2	254.7
461, 464 and 469	*Bricks, cement, etc, industries*	298.3	313.8	321.4	325.6	332.6	303.5	321.6	322.5	324.8	325.5	326.5	330.3	331.2	336.2
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	289.4	306.3	315.9	320.3	326.5	293.7	315.8	317.1	319.8	320.3	320.8	325.7	326.0	327.8
Order XVII	*Timber industries*	319.9	327.4	329.5	323.8	320.6	322.3	330.8	327.4	325.9	323.9	321.6	321.2	320.3	320.3
481 to 484	Paper industries	312.5	317.6	314.1	291.8	282.9	314.6	312.2	311.7	294.9	291.9	288.5	282.4	281.6	284.6
Order XX	*Construction materials*	284.0	294.0	301.4	305.3	308.8	287.7	302.0	301.8	304.4	305.6	306.0	307.0	308.5	310.8
Part of Order XX	House building materials	288.6	299.8	308.2	310.8	313.4	292.6	309.2	308.7	310.2	311.2	310.9	311.4	313.1	315.6

[1] Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising. [2] Includes petroleum products. p Provisional.

Table 1a Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by selected sectors of industry

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977				1978	1977						1978		
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr p	Mar	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb p	Mar p
361	Electrical machinery industry	264.2	268.3	271.3	276.8	280.5	266.7	270.9	273.0	276.8	276.3	277.2	279.5	279.7	282.4
362	Insulated wires and cables industry	198.6	197.7	188.9	188.9	187.4	203.9	187.2	187.5	189.5	187.1	190.1	189.0	186.2	187.1
364	Radio and electronic components industry	259.5	266.7	270.7	275.4	278.9	263.2	270.2	272.6	275.2	275.1	276.0	278.1	278.5	280.2
368	Domestic appliances industry	255.0	260.2	264.6	269.2	273.6	257.2	264.1	266.7	268.9	269.1	269.7	272.4	273.2	275.2
369	Electrical goods industries n.e.s.	254.2	259.0	259.7	264.1	264.7	259.2	258.7	261.5	263.9	263.5	264.9	265.2	263.5	265.3
381	Motor vehicle industry	285.2	291.0	298.4	304.1	310.2	287.3	298.5	301.5	303.4	304.4	304.5	308.2	309.7	312.6
411	Man-made fibres industry	277.8	284.6	286.5	284.7	284.2	279.6	285.9	286.0	285.4	284.0	284.7	282.2 p	283.3	287.1
414	Woollen and worsted industry	333.3	315.9	309.0	306.7	300.3	323.2	309.5	305.1	310.1	305.0	305.0	296.7	299.1	305.0
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs industry	269.3	277.5	275.5	271.8	272.4	274.0	275.2	273.8	272.8	271.6	270.9	271.8	272.2	273.1
450	Footwear industry	239.3	245.6	248.5	249.6	251.6	241.6	248.5	249.9	249.4	249.7	249.6	250.9	251.3	252.7
481	Paper and board making industry	318.1	325.1	318.2	284.3	271.1	321.5	315.5	314.5	288.9	284.6	279.4	270.4	269.6	273.2

p Provisional.

period fell for the eighth successive month, from 12½ per cent in February to 11¾ per cent in March. The increase over the latest six months was 4¼ per cent as in February.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose by 2 per cent in March to 330.7. This is the first monthly increase in the index since April 1977. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen by 4¾ per cent.

Higher prices for coal (other than for carbonising) accounted for the whole of the 2¾ per cent increase in the index for coal, gas and electricity.

More than half of the 2½ per cent increase in the index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco was the result of higher prices for coal for carbonising (a material for making coke) and crude oil. The increase in this index reflects to a large degree the depreciation of sterling during March. This index has fallen by ½ per cent in the latest three months.

Most of the 1½ per cent increase in the index for the bricks, cement, etc, industries was accounted for by coal other than for carbonising. Coal also accounted for almost half of the increases in the indices for the pottery and glass industries and for the paper industries; woodpulp for paper-making also made a sizeable contribution in the latter index. Coal also contributed, with vegetable and animal oils and fats and crude oil, to the 2 per cent increase in the index for the chemicals and allied industries and, with mohair, cotton and wool, to the 1¾ per cent increase in the index for the textile industries.

Higher prices for copper partially offset by lower prices for tin were mainly responsible for the ½ per cent increase in the index for the non-ferrous metals industries. This index has fallen by 5½ per cent in the latest three months. Gold and, to a lesser extent, tinplate were the main contributors to the increase of 1½ per cent in the index for the metal goods industries.

Higher prices for cocoa, oils and oilseeds, partially offset by lower prices for coffee, were responsible for the ¾ per cent increase in the provisional index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries. This index increased by 3 per cent in the latest three months.

Rebasing of wholesale price indices

Following the usual cycle of rebasing every five years or so, the present series with 1970 = 100 will be replaced in September by a new series with 1975 = 100. An article in *Trade and Industry*, 19 May, will give some details of the changes that will be introduced and, in particular, will explain the arrangements that are proposed for series which may be used in long-term contracts.

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry*, 13 May 1977.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by sectors of industry.

4 Firm and provisional indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be made if they are significant. These revisions will be notified when the series are next published.

6 A list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom supplementary to those shown in table 3a is published in table 4a in April, August and December. Similarly a list of commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom supplementary to those shown in table 3b is published in table 4b.

Table 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977				1978	1977						1978		
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr p	Mar	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb p	Mar p
Orders III to XIX	Output of manufactured products	248.0	259.2	267.7	272.1	278.9	250.8	268.1	269.2	271.0	272.0	273.3	277.1	279.2	280. 4
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	254.5	264.4	272.9	279.1	286.8	257.6	273.3	275.1	277.6	279.3	280.5	284.8	287.1	288.6
	Output of selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	267.3	282.9	294.7	294.1	299.0	270.9	294.7	294.2	294.0	292.8	295.6	297.2	299.3	300.4
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	262.5	279.1	293.7	296.1	302.0	266.1	293.9	294.3	295.3	294.6	298.3	300.1	302.4	303.4
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	239.7	248.5	256.9	261.3	268.7	241.7	257.1	258.0	260.1	261.4	262.3	267.3	268.8	270.1
Order VI	Metal manufacturing	283.8	286.4	291.9	300.3	304.9	287.2	291.6	295.3	300.6	299.7	300.6	304.8	304.6	305.3
311 and 312	Steel industries	311.0	313.1	321.6	334.7	342.8	312.7	321.3	326.7	334.3	334.8	334.9	341.7	342.8	343.9
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	248.1	258.3	267.6	275.2	284.2	251.7	268.5	270.3	273.1	275.3	277.1	281.5	284.6	286.4
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	255.7	264.3	273.2	281.4	291.1	259.0	273.4	275.9	279.1	281.6	283.6	289.1	291.1	293.2
Order VIII	Instrument engineering	211.6	217.3	227.4	233.2	243.0	213.1	228.0	229.7	231.2	232.2	236.3	242.2	243.2	243.5
Order IX	Electrical engineering	223.1	232.6	237.8	245.5	251.2	226.4	237.7	239.3	242.9	246.6	247.0	249.0	251.0	253.6
Order XI (excluding MLH 383)	Vehicles	277.1	293.5	308.6	316.4	329.3	282.6	311.6	313.4	314.6	315.8	318.8	325.0	331.2	331.7
Order XII	Metal goods industries n.e.s.	263.5	272.1	278.2	287.3	293.9	265.8	278.2	279.8	286.1	287.4	288.5	291.8	293.9	296.0
Order XIII	Textile industries	234.9	241.6	244.7	247.6	254.5	237.1	244.6	245.4	246.8	247.5	248.4	253.6	254.5	255.3
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	202.4	206.6	213.3	218.7	226.4	203.4	212.8	215.9	217.4	219.0	219.7	225.0	226.5	227.6
441 to 445 and 449	Made-up clothing	195.5	198.4	204.4	209.9	216.0	196.0	203.8	207.3	208.8	209.9	210.9	214.6	216.2	217.2
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc, industries	279.8	294.7	309.5	317.7	322.3	285.5	309.5	312.1	315.9	318.2	318.9	320.0	321.7	325.1
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	251.4	266.2	272.2	285.1	292.4	255.9	270.2	277.6	281.8	286.0	287.5	289.5	293.0	294.8
Order XVII	Timber industries	266.6	275.7	280.8	286.3	294.4	271.1	280.7	282.4	285.4	286.4	287.1	292.3	295.0	296.0
431 to 484	Paper industries	278.5	284.4	290.1	294.9	296.3	279.4	289.5	292.7	294.5	295.0	295.2	295.6	296.5	296.9

p Provisional.

Table 3a Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published monthly)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977		1978		
		Mar	Dec	Jan	Feb p	Mar p
	Mining and quarrying					
101	Coal	400.9	410.5	410.5	410.5	444.2
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	301.0	331.2	332.8	332.9	334.2
102/1	Granite and limestone roadstone	281.8	309.5	311.5	311.8	312.8
	Coated limestone roadstone	361.1	385.0	387.9	387.9	387.9
	Granite and other chippings	255.4	278.3	280.7	281.4	282.2
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction					
	Sand and gravel – ex-pit or works	276.4	331.7	332.5	335.6	336.5
	Sand and gravel – delivered	229.3	261.4	263.5	263.5	265.3
	Food, drink and tobacco					
240	Tobacco	190.6	214.3	219.7	219.7	219.7
	Coal and petroleum products					
261	Coke ovens and manufactured fuel					
	Foundry coke	468.7	468.7	468.7	468.7	491.9
262	Mineral oil refining					
	Petroleum products	475.5	497.6	497.6	497.6	497.6
	Motor spirit two star (including duty) [1]	222.4	226.8	226.8	226.8	226.8
	Medium fuel oil (950-secs including duty) [1]	464.2	505.4	505.4	505.4	505.4
	Derv fuel (including duty) [1]	218.0	240.6	240.6	240.6	240.6
263	Lubricating oils and greases	281.6	287.8	291.2	289.4	289.4
	Chemicals and allied industries					
271	General chemicals	275.0	291.1	292.7 p	293.4	297.2
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)	269.1	288.4 r	293.8 p	293.4	301.7
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)	298.7	308.4	306.1 p	308.4	308.6
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Pharmaceutical chemicals	248.4	273.5	277.6	283.8	283.9
	Pharmaceutical preparations	210.6	231.7	234.9	236.9	237.8
273	Toilet preparations	212.2	231.6	236.0	237.7	238.1
274	Paint	250.7	280.3	286.1	289.6	289.7
276	Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber					
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	236.8	250.0 c	250.1 p	249.8	250.5
	Polyolefin moulding materials	247.2	247.8	247.0	243.9	245.6
	Polyvinyl chlorides	266.6	283.0	283.0	283.0	283.8
279	Other chemical industries					
279/3	Explosives, fireworks, etc	277.9	303.4	310.5	314.2	315.1
	Metal manufacture					
311/2	Steel					
	Steel sheets	286.2	307.6	312.5	312.5	312.6
	Electrical steel sheets	296.9	325.9	325.9	325.9	325.9
	Stainless steel sheets	235.4	235.5	235.5	235.6	235.9
	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical)	295.2	318.7	325.8	325.8	325.8
	Galvanised steel sheets	289.9	314.5	314.5	314.5	314.5
	Tinplate	303.4	335.8	335.8	349.4	358.1
	Semi-finished steels	348.6	359.5	359.7	359.8	359.8
	Semi-finished steels for forgings (other than drop forgings)	363.3	382.6	382.6	382.6	382.6
	Semi-finished steels for alloy stainless products (except sheets and tubes)	303.1	316.4	316.4	316.4	316.4
	Semi-finished steels for drop forgings and stampings	352.2	373.8	373.8	373.8	373.8
	Semi-finished steels for tubes	359.8	367.2	367.6	367.6	367.6
	Semi-finished steel for forgings (other than drop forgings) (using public sector indicators)	360.1	379.4	379.4	379.4	379.4
	Finished steels (other than sheets, tinplate, tubes, forgings and castings)	315.2	334.8	340.7	340.7	341.1
	Steel wire rods	319.7	322.6	322.6	322.6	322.6
	Heavy steel rails and fishplates	347.7	375.4	375.4	375.4	375.4
	Steel plates (alloy)	284.8	341.8	341.8	341.8	341.8
	Steel plates (non-alloy)	303.5	354.7	354.7	354.7	354.7
	Steel sheet piling	331.4	357.7	391.8	391.8	391.8
	Heavy steel bars and sections	332.4	353.7	384.2	384.2	384.2
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	333.6	330.7	330.7	330.7	336.1
	Hot rolled steel strip	356.9	357.3	357.3	357.3	357.3
	Bright steel bars (non-alloy)	315.7	337.2	337.2	337.2	337.2
	Cold rolled steel strip (non-alloy)	313.1 r	329.9	329.9	329.9	329.9
	Alloy steel bars and rods, black (excluding stainless)	279.1	299.1	299.1	299.1	299.1
	Finished stainless steels	256.1	256.2	261.2	259.6	253.2
	High-speed tool and magnet steel	291.4	297.5	297.5	297.5	297.5
	Steel castings	285.5	313.3	313.3	317.3	318.8
	Carbon steel castings	293.5	320.1	320.1	320.3	322.0
	Stainless and heat resisting alloy steel castings	240.9	269.6	269.6	275.4	275.6
	Other alloy steel castings	308.7	338.3	338.3	348.6	351.2
	Structural steel	321.5	332.1	347.7	347.7	347.7
	Forgings (other than drop forgings)	389.8	416.2	419.4	419.6	427.4
312	Steel tubes					
	Steel tubes and fittings	337.5	361.9	381.3	381.7	381.7
	Steel tubes (other than electric conduit tubes)	340.8	364.8	385.6	385.6	385.6
	Non-alloy steel tubes, hot finished	363.1	388.5	417.6	417.6	417.6
	Pipe fittings	279.7	308.3	311.1	319.1	319.1
313	Iron castings, etc	309.5	338.9	345.5 p	348.3	349.2
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	301.4	329.2	336.9 p	340.2	341.3
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	323.0	340.2	341.6	360.5	360.5
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Wrought aluminium	271.6	295.0	298.1	297.6	298.7
	Aluminium: Rolled	273.1	308.2	308.2	308.1	308.1
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	280.1	299.3	298.5	295.4	295.4
	Aluminium: Castings	272.3	285.2	293.7	294.4	298.1
	Aluminium: Forgings	242.6	269.3	290.0	290.0	290.0
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper tubes	174.9	153.2	154.0	149.5	149.5
	Brass ingots	177.0	145.8	142.7	138.8	138.5
	Mechanical engineering					
331	Agricultural machinery	277.6	315.9	321.4	322.7	323.1
	Soil preparation and cultivating machinery	275.0	315.5	324.9	325.2	325.7
	Harvesting, threshing, feed-processing machinery, etc	288.3	326.7	329.6	329.7	329.9
	Pick-up balers	289.7	339.5	339.5	339.5	339.5
	Grinding mills and meal mixers	272.2	307.6	314.2	315.7	315.7
	Milking machines	264.2	289.5	302.0	311.8	313.1
	Other agricultural machinery (spraying machinery, general purpose elevators and conveyors, etc)	254.3	303.5	307.8	307.8	308.3
332	Metal-working machine tools	281.2	313.9	320.7 p	322.3	323.3
332/1	Metal-cutting machine tools	283.2	319.8	326.9	328.5	328.7
332/2	Metal-forming machine tools	272.2	302.8	307.6 p	309.2	312.0
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	249.7	270.8	276.4	278.1	282.1
333/1	Pumps	240.9	266.0	267.0	269.0	270.3
	Kerbside petrol and oil measuring pumps	243.2	265.3 c	265.3	267.7	279.4
	Industrial pumps	240.7	266.0	267.1	269.0	269.7
	Centrifugal, turbine and axial flow pumps	248.1	274.1	275.7	278.2	279.3
333/2	Industrial valves	269.9	284.2	296.3	297.0	303.4
	Iron valves	279.8	297.2	308.4	309.8	315.7
	Steel valves	273.7	286.5	303.3	303.3	313.8
	Non-ferrous valves	256.0	269.7	276.3	277.2	278.9
333/3	Air and gas compressors	271.8	294.2 r	295.3	301.2	304.6
333/4	Fluid power equipment					
	Oil/hydraulic fluid power equipment	233.7	255.8	261.1	261.4	262.2
	Pneumatic fluid power and control equipment	205.1	222.1	222.1	224.0	233.8
334	Stationary internal combustion engines and steam turbines	260.0	290.8	298.8	310.0	310.3
336	Construction and earth-moving equipment	274.4	299.2 p	302.5 p	302.8	310.0
	Contractors' plant and parts	274.1	298.6 p	301.9 p	302.1	309.8
	Excavators, trenchers, diggers, etc	306.0	327.1	332.5	332.5	343.9
	Concrete mixers	259.6	290.4	290.7	290.7	299.5
	Dumpers	262.0	287.3	291.1	291.1	305.1
	Crawler tractors	250.1	273.5 p	278.2 p	278.2	279.9
	Crushing and screening plant and parts	269.7	296.9	300.9 p	300.9	302.7
337	Mechanical handling equipment	250.4	278.4	282.7	285.0	286.2
337/2	Cranes	251.1	273.8	280.1	282.5	283.1
337/4	Lifting and winding devices	258.8	277.6	287.1	290.9	290.9
337/5	Powered industrial trucks and tractors	267.0	300.4	302.3	305.2	306.5
339/1	Mining machinery	226.1	245.8	246.4 p	247.5	249.9
339/3	Commercial and industrial refrigeration machinery	267.2	279.1	283.9	297.7	297.9
339/5	Scales and weighing machinery	264.8	300.9	301.7	301.7	301.9
339/6	Portable power tools	237.1	250.1	252.4	253.4	255.0
339/7	Food and drink processing machinery	248.4	281.6	284.7	288.6	289.6
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	254.0	283.0	289.2 p	290.7	293.2
	Instrument engineering					
352	Clocks, watches and time recorders	240.1	254.0	264.1	270.7	272.2
354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems	214.0	236.3	243. 0p	243.8	244.1
354/1	Optical instruments					
	Microscopes	216.2	235.7 r	253.2	253.3	253.2
354/2	Other scientific and industrial instruments					
	Process measuring and control instruments	223.6	254.8	259.9	260.1	260.1
	Analytical instruments	198.0	215.7	223.1	224.4	224.4
	Spectrophotometers and absorptiometers	164.6	177.6	185.7	185.8	185.8
	Electrical testing, measuring and control instruments	202.7	219.6	225.9	226.7	227.9

Table 3a Commodities produced in the United Kingdom continued

1968 SIC		1977		1978		
		Mar	Dec	Jan	Feb p	Mar p
	Electrical engineering					
365	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	161.0	171.9 c	172.5	173.7	175.0
365/1	Gramophone records and pre-recorded tapes	197.0	222.7	222.7	222.7	222.7
	Gramophone records	203.5	230.7	230.7	230.7	230.7
	Pre-recorded tapes – cassettes	199.7	221.8	221.8	221.8	221.8
	Pre-recorded tapes – cartridges	170.1	190.6	190.6	190.6	190.6
365/2	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	157.1	166.3	167.0	168.3	169.8
	Domestic television receivers [2]	159.8	169.2	169.5	170.6	172.4
	Domestic television receivers – colour [2]	145.1	153.7	155.0	155.4	156.8
	Domestic television receivers – monochrome [2]	164.0	173.6	173.6	175.0	176.9
	Record players and tape recorders	150.9	156.2	156.4	157.1	156.7
368	Domestic electrical appliances	208.7	236.4	238.1	238.6	239.0
	Domestic electrical cooking appliances	217.4	245.9	246.0	247.0	247.7
	Electric cookers	216.5	247.9	247.9	247.9	247.9
	Domestic electrical heating appliances	217.9	251.0	253.6	255.3	255.3
	Electric fires	218.7	253.1	257.0	261.1	261.1
	Electric water heaters, wash boilers, etc	273.7	309.0	309.6	309.6	309.6
	Electric vacuum cleaners and polishers	227.3	255.3	256.3	256.3	256.3
	Domestic electric flat irons	244.3	273.4	273.4	273.4	276.7
	Domestic refrigerators, gas and electric	197.7	219.4	226.1	225.1	226.4
	Domestic electric refrigerators	205.4	230.5	236.1	234.7	236.6
369/2 and 369/3	Batteries and accumulators	262.1	283.3	289.5	289.5	292.5
369/4	Electric lamps and fluorescent tubes	218.1	240.6	240.6	241.3	247.3
	Vehicles					
380	Wheeled tractors	342.1	392.9	398.8	400.2	400.2
381	Motor vehicles					
	Passenger cars	274.4	311.0	318.1	326.2	326.2
	Passenger cars [3]	250.2	283.6	290.0	297.4	297.4
	Commercial and public service vehicles	300.3	343.8	350.1	356.1	357.0
	Commercial vehicles	303.1	347.6	354.3	360.8	361.7
	Commercial vehicles and chassis not exceeding 3.5 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	302.3	347.8	355.4	364.2	365.0
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 3.5 tons but not exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	312.2	355.2	360.7	362.5	363.8
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	278.9	318.4 c	320.1	321.0	321.9
	Commercial vehicles not exceeding 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	303.2	350.3	358.7	369.0	369.0
	Commercial vehicles and chassis over 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	299.1	340.0	345.6	349.8	350.6
	Public service vehicles	295.0	332.5	334.4	334.8	336.1
	Metal goods not elsewhere specified					
390	Engineers' small tools and gauges					
	Engineers' cutting tools	229.9	264.1	265.6	267.6	269.4
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	191.6	207.5	216.0	216.6	217.2
	Engineers' cutting tools and parts: non-diamond	231.6	265.8	266.7	268.9	270.8
	Hacksaw blades	250.2	294.4	295.2	296.4	296.4
391	Hand tools and implements	283.1	319.7	330.1 p	335.0	335.3
392	Cutlery and tableware, etc	252.5	273.4	280.7	283.9	286.7
393	Nuts and bolts, etc	330.1	344.5	347.2	351.8	353.9
	High tensile steel nuts and bolts	348.4	351.0	357.0	362.0	364.3
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture, office and works equipment	234.1	252.5	260.1	262.8	264.0
	Metal non-domestic furniture	244.0	264.4	273.0	276.6	277.5
	Metal chairs	207.1	226.6	227.5	227.5	227.5
	Metal cabinets	235.5	259.4	270.9	277.7	277.7
399/2	Metal windows and door frames					
	Metal windows	400.4	436.7	437.6	439.1	439.2
399/9	Domestic gas appliances	210.6	235.0	237.7	241.8	244.1
	Gas cookers	211.1	232.7	236.6	243.1	245.6
	Gas water heaters and wash boilers	233.5	253.4	255.7	255.7	260.1
	Gas fires and space heaters	200.1	232.0	232.2	233.4	234.7
	Gas water heaters and gas fires	209.3	237.9	238.7	239.6	241.7
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Catering equipment	235.1	258.0	260.6	261.8	262.2
	Plumbers' brassware	214.3	224.1	225.5	226.3	231.3
	Domestic oil burning appliances	259.8	293.0	299.9	299.9	299.9
	Textiles					
411	Man-made fibres production	194.3	200.0	200.7	200.0	200.3
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	246.1	228.8	229.8	229.5	230.1
	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	279.8	253.6	254.7	254.6	255.3
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	252.1	257.4	262.5	262.7	263.9
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	267.2	260.5	260.9	262.2	262.8
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	232.0	245.5	254.9	254.3	256.0
414	Woollen and worsted	283.2	294.1	295.2	295.3	297.1
414/2	Worsted spinning	267.7	276.8	278.1	278.8	280.3
	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	286.6	295.2	296.4	297.1	298.8
	Yarns of man-made fibres spun on the worsted system	205.7	216.6	218.7	219.3	219.5
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	195.7	206.8	213.2	213.4	214.3
419	Carpets and rugs	241.5	258.6	265.5 p	269.8	269.9
	Carpets	240.9	258.0	265.1 p	269.3	269.4
	Carpets – woven	265.7	286.9	296.7 p	300.8	300.8
	Tufted carpets	192.0	200.9	202.9	207.1	207.4
429	Other textile industries					
429/1	Asbestos manufactures	241.9	259.2	271.1	271.1	271.1
	Leather, leather goods and fur					
431/1	Leather for footwear	215.7	213.7	213.7	213.7	214.8
	Clothing and footwear					
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	222.8	243.0	253.3	254.1	255.5
	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc					
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	295.0	329.8	332.1	334.1	335.6
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	309.1	342.4	346.5	347.3	347.6
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks	288.4	323.8	325.3	328.0	330.0
	Building bricks – delivered	296.8	333.9	335.0	336.0	339.7
	Engineering bricks – delivered	319.3	339.3	354.0	357.8	358.5
463	Glass	260.5	293.7	295.4 p	298.4	299.7
463/1	Glass other than containers	254.4	284.9	286.5	288.6	289.6
	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	248.4	279.7	280.4	280.4	281.0
	Glazing sheet and plate glass	232.8	265.5	265.5	265.5	265.5
463/2	Glass containers	269.5	306.9	308.6 p	312.9	314.7
464	Cement	280.6	314.6	314.6	314.6	326.2
	Cement – delivered in bulk	280.6	314.6	314.6	314.6	326.2
	Cement – delivered in bags	280.7	314.6	314.6	314.6	326.2
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified	285.6	318.0	318.8	320.3	323.3
	Precast concrete products	271.1	300.9	303.8	306.6	310.4
	Precast concrete pipes – delivered	319.6	371.1	371.9	371.9	371.9
	Precast concrete manholes – delivered	248.6	288.4	288.8	288.8	288.8
	Plaster gypsum	243.9	276.6	276.6	276.6	276.6
	Mastic asphalt	266.2	300.8	301.7	301.7	301.7
	Timber, furniture, etc					
471/1	Timber sawmilling					
	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	280.3	317.6	319.7	324.5	337.3
471/2	Building joinery	319.8	332.8	338.6	341.7	342.1
	Timber structures and structural components	319.4	320.3	331.9	340.0	340.9
	Door sets, doors and door frames (excluding hardwood doors architecturally designed)	328.0	350.6	353.0	353.0	353.0
	Windows and window frames (wood)	343.1	373.8	374.9	374.9	374.9
	Other building joinery (ie architectural and general joinery)	333.3	344.1	346.8	346.8	346.8
472	Furniture and upholstery	240.8	258.1	264.2	266.7	268.7
	Domestic furniture	235.8	255.2	259.6	261.7	263.5
	Non-upholstered furniture – domestic	246.0	268.6	273.7	275.8	277.0
	Bedroom furniture	213.9	235.0	235.5	238.9	240.7
	Bookcases, bookshelves, bureaux, occasional furniture	242.4	257.3	270.7	274.4	274.7
	Dining room furniture	245.4	268.9	278.9	282.3	285.6
	Kitchen furniture	271.1	298.0	302.9	302.9	302.9
	Upholstered furniture	219.2	233.3	236.7	238.7	241.6
	Two and three-piece suites	208.2	220.7	222.6	224.4	224.9
	Fireside chairs – open wood arm easy chairs	247.1	266.5	274.9	274.9	288.8
473	Bedding, etc	272.7	295.8	299.9	304.9	305.2
	Upholstered spring interior mattresses	278.5	294.3	295.7	299.8	300.4
	Divan sets	292.8	313.6	321.8	331.3	331.3
	Paper, printing and publishing					
481	Paper and board	284.4	288.8	287.7	287.6	287.6
	Printings and writings – excluding newsprint	285.8	285.8	283.3	283.3	283.3
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials					
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard	274.7	297.0	297.6	297.7	297.7
483	Manufactured stationery	289.7	306.0	306.6	306.4	308.6

TABLE 3 (a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1977 Mar	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb p	1978 Mar p
484	Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified					
484/1	Wallpaper	240.9	259.8	260.8	275.6	277.1
489	Other printing, publishing, bookbinding, etc					
	General printing, bookbinding, etc	228.0	240.6	242.1	243.6	243.6
Other manufacturing industries						
491	Rubber manufactures					
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	236.1	258.4	258.4	258.4	258.7
492	Linoleum, plastics, floor covering and leathercloth					
	Linoleum and felt base	226.3	263.7	270.6	272.5	272.5
102/1 and 103 312	Part Aggregates for concrete	232.7	262.5	263.9	263.9	265.1
361/2 362 369/5 338	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	238.2	256.7 r	258.8	260.0	267.0
399/1 399/3 472	Part Office equipment and machinery	214.8	229.4	239.4	242.3	243.0
399/1 472	Part Office furniture	269.4	282.7	297.5	301.9	303.0
412 414	Part All spun man-made fibres yarns	219.7	231.2	232.4	233.1	233.7

[1] Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons (motor spirit 1000 gallons) exclusive of rebates. [2] Excludes sales to rental companies. [3] Inclusive of purchase tax (before its abolition), VAT and Car Tax. r Revised. c Correction. p Provisional.

Addendum to table 3a. Confirmation of figures previously published as provisional

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	1977 Nov
339/1	Mining machinery	243.6	243.7
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	278.2	282.0

Revision to table 3a

1968 SIC		1977 Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)	—	—	—	—	283.3	284.8	285.5	287.1	287.8
333/3	Air and gas compressors	268.0	269.7	271.4	272.5	273.4	283.9	289.5	293.1	293.7
354/1	Microscopes	—	—	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	235.7	235.7
312 361/2 362 369/5	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	254.8	257.6

Table 3b Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (published monthly)

1970 = 100

	1977 Mar	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb p	1978 Mar p
Hides and skins	385.4	329.7	349.6	343.8	350.7 e
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	246.2	265.7	265.7	265.7	265.7
Copper [1]	149.3	115.5	110.4	106.3	111.3
Lead [1]	328.3	292.2	269.9	236.3	240.3
Tin, ingot min. 99.75% [1]	400.4	451.3	408.4	409.4	391.8
Zinc [1]	343.7	235.8	217.0	199.6	215.9
Zinc [2]	361.8	268.2	242.5	230.4	224.4
Natural rubber	283.0	257.8	245.4	243.0	254.3
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	297.2	275.1	263.5	263.5	263.5
Textiles:					
Raw cotton, all types	404.4	268.1	277.0	287.7	299.6
American types, cif Liverpool	416.3	267.8	274.8	283.5	296.3
Egyptian types, cif Liverpool	345.2	269.6	287.8	308.8	316.3
Raw wool – all types	354.0	311.5	295.1	300.4	304.5
Imported	343.8	309.2	289.8	294.5	298.2
Imported, merino	313.7	289.9	274.6	276.5	280.8
Imported, fine crossbred	341.8	310.1	289.2	296.3	302.4
Imported, medium and coarse crossbred	439.3	377.3	349.1	357.8	358.4
British types	411.1	324.2	324.8	333.8	340.4
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	347.4	365.5	364.4	360.6	362.0 e
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	326.2	325.6	325.1	324.4	324.3 e
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	385.3	356.5	351.7	348.4	346.1 e
Woodpulp, imported	351.9	267.9	249.5	247.8	251.1

[1] LME settlement price. [2] Producer's price. p Provisional. e Estimates which are subject to possible major revision.

Table 4a Supplementary list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published April, August and December)

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	1977 Nov	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb p
Mining and quarrying						
102/1	Stone quarrying and mining	325.3	327.4	327.7	329.4	329.4
	Granite and other chippings, aggregates and roadstones	272.0	273.7	275.5	277.6	278.2
	Coated granite and whinstone roadstone	384.1	384.2	384.2	384.2	384.2
	Uncoated limestone roadstone and aggregates	300.4	300.5	300.2	301.3	301.3
	Uncoated limestone roadstone (excluding aggregates)	275.5	275.5	274.7	274.7	274.7
	Agricultural ground limestone	237.6	237.6	242.5	255.0	255.0
	Industrial ground limestone	287.2	292.9	292.9	294.0	294.0
102/2	Slate quarrying and mining					
	Slates	384.5	384.5	444.7	444.7	444.7
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction	318.0	319.8	321.1	325.7	328.1
	China clay	263.4	263.4	263.4	282.1	282.7
	Moulding sand	260.5	260.5	260.5	270.0	274.7
109	Other mining and quarrying					
109/3	Salt mines, brine pits, salt works					
	Salt	280.6	287.1	287.1	287.1	287.1
Food, drink and tobacco						
211/1	Wheat milling					
	Flour for bread making	338.0	338.6	358.0	358.5	358.5
216	Sugar					
	Sugar – bulk granulated	329.2	329.2	329.2	331.2	331.9
217	Cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery					
	Chocolate and sugar confectionery	314.3	315.7	316.0	319.5	323.1
221	Vegetable and animal oils and fats	276.7	271.5	282.3	273.3	274.8
231	Brewing and malting [1]	202.4	202.4	202.5	204.3	207.4
240	Tobacco					
	Cigarettes	216.1	216.1	216.1	221.5	221.5
	Pipe tobacco	197.3	197.3	197.3	203.0	203.0
Chemicals and allied industries						
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)					
	Caustic soda, soda ash, and other sodium compounds	355.2	355.9	356.7	369.6	370.3
	Caustic soda	293.2	293.2	293.2	315.8	315.8
	Soda ash	402.7	402.7	402.7	416.7	416.7
	Other sodium compounds	369.9	372.2	374.8	375.4	377.7
	Inorganic chemicals other than sodium and sodium compounds	265.6	266.3	266.8	269.8 p	269.1
	Sulphuric and other inorganic acids	229.7	229.7	229.7	230.5 p	231.0
	Sulphuric acid	183.7	183.7	183.7	185.4	186.5
	Inorganic acids (other than sulphuric)	270.3	270.3	270.3	270.3 p	270.3
	Blacks, carbon and mineral	353.3	353.3	353.3	384.8	385.9
	Phosphorous and phosphorous compounds	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)					
	Alcohols	319.1	318.6	318.6	317.9 p	317.7
	Coal tar products	423.9	428.4	428.4	426.7	433.5
	Halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrostated derivatives of hydrocarbons	238.1	238.3	238.3	237.9	242.3
	Phenols	300.1	300.1	291.8	291.8	291.8
	Nitrogen-function organic compounds	224.0	223.8	223.8	223.8	239.1

Table 4a Supplementary list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom continued

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	1977 Nov	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb p
271/3	Other chemicals					
	Bleaching materials	270.6	270.6	272.4	272.6	272.6
	Plasticisers	263.4	263.4	262.2	262.2	262.2
	Phthalate plasticisers	247.2	247.2	245.6	245.6	245.6
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Anti-infective agents	194.4	198.7	200.3	201.8	208.7
	Antibiotic preparations	165.6	174.0	177.1	177.3	177.4
	Hormone preparations	138.9	139.0	139.0	142.4	150.3
	Preparations affecting metabolism and nutrition	233.5	237.0	238.1	239.8	239.8
	Vitamins	197.3	205.6	207.6	210.1	210.1
	Preparations affecting the nervous system	239.0	241.9	245.8	249.8	250.0
	Analgesics	264.6	271.1	272.8	281.6	282.1
	Aspirin and compounds	277.8	280.5	280.5	293.7	294.3
	Other analgesics	238.0	252.3	257.2	257.2	257.5
	Anti-depressives	242.9	242.9	276.8	276.8	276.8
	Preparations acting on the cardiovascular system	172.7	178.2	179.1	179.1	179.2
	Preparations acting on the alimentary system	277.0	277.0	277.0	284.5	284.6
	Laxatives	293.8	293.8	293.8	293.8	293.8
	Preparations acting on the respiratory system	275.2	276.7	278.1	278.1	278.1
273	Toilet preparations					
	Hair settings, lotions and spirits	198.3	198.3	198.3	196.8	201.5
	Soapless shampoos	236.7	236.7	236.7	236.8	238.2
	Dental preparations	244.3	247.4	247.4	247.4	247.4
	Preparations especially for men	239.1	239.1	239.1	243.4	244.3
	Make-up	242.2	242.2	242.4	251.8	252.3
	Face powders	244.7	244.7	244.9	261.1	261.6
	Lipsticks	248.6	248.6	248.6	258.1	259.8
	Manicure preparations	265.3	265.3	265.3	251.6	252.4
	Other make-ups	230.4	230.4	231.2	238.4	238.4
	Eye make-up	225.3	225.3	225.3	243.2	243.3
	Treatment creams	234.7	234.7	236.7	241.3	243.6
	Face creams	203.7	203.7	204.5	205.5	207.4
	Hand creams and jellies	260.6	260.5	260.5	264.3	268.0
	Face and skin lotions	255.6	255.6	260.6	270.6	272.5
	Talcum, baby and other dusting powders	258.0	258.0	260.8	267.9	271.5
	Depilatories and deodorants	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.8	183.9
274	Paint					
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying primers, surfacers and sealers	320.6	324.0	324.0	329.7	335.1
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying undercoats	261.1	264.1	264.1	271.3	274.2
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying finishes	268.3	271.2	271.3	277.7	281.2
	Emulsion paints	237.8	240.8	240.8	246.8	249.4
	Paste fillers and mastics	285.4	295.7	295.7	295.7	301.1
275	Soaps, detergents, candles and glycerine	254.3	254.1	254.4	255.7	255.8
	Glycerine	287.5	287.5	287.5	279.4	278.6
	Soap (excluding scouring powders)	259.7	259.9	260.1	262.3	262.7
	Toilet and shaving soap	274.2	274.5	275.0	279.7	280.7
	Soapless detergents	231.4	231.5	231.5	231.9	231.9
	Soapless detergents: pastes and other forms (excluding powders)	226.4	226.4	226.4	227.5	227.6
	Scouring powders	278.4	278.5	278.9	278.9	278.9
	Oleine, stearine, etc	281.5	279.0	280.4	286.1	285.3
276	Synthetic resins, plastics materials and synthetic rubber	254.1	255.1	256.0	256.1 p	255.9
	Laminated materials	304.3	304.3	304.3	307.6 p	310.1
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – resins	300.1	309.7	309.7	312.0 p	313.4
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – moulding powders	231.6	233.1	247.2	249.0 p	251.9
	Polystyrene and styrene copolymers – moulding powders	285.2	285.5	285.0	285.0	285.2
	General purpose polystyrene	345.4	345.3	345.2	345.2	345.2
	Expandable polystyrene, and styrene copolymers	255.4	255.4	255.4	255.4	256.4
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	258.3	257.8	257.6	254.9	254.9
	Pigments	282.9	282.0	281.7	277.3	277.2
	Inorganic pigments and earth colours	276.2	275.4	281.1	284.0	286.7
	White lead, dry [2]	253.6	257.1	266.4	261.0	242.0
278	Fertilisers	265.5	268.2	271.0	297.7	298.6
279	Other chemical industries	261.0	261.8	262.9	266.3	269.0
279/2	Formulated adhesives, gelatine, etc					
	Adhesives	275.9	282.3	282.6	282.6	289.0
279/4	Formulated pesticides, etc					
	Formulated pesticides	260.7	259.9	265.7	267.8	268.5
	Herbicides	269.7	268.0	274.9	277.8	278.6
279/6	Surgical and medical dressings and sanitary towels	253.6	254.7	255.6	256.7	256.7
	Surgical and medical dressings	247.6	249.8	251.5	253.7	253.7
	Sanitary towels	260.1	260.1	260.1	260.1	260.1
279/7	Photographic paper and film and photochemical materials	224.3	224.7	224.7	230.7	238.9
	Sensitised paper, cloth, etc	223.5	224.2	224.2	229.8	235.8

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	1977 Nov	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb p
Metal manufacture						
313	Iron castings, etc					
313/3	Engineers' castings					
	Automobile iron castings	304.5	304.5	304.1	310.4	313.8
	Engineers' castings (other than automobile castings)	324.3	324.3	325.8	333.7 p	334.1
	Malleable iron castings	336.8	336.1	336.2	360.3	362.1
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Building and domestic castings (excluding malleable)	367.2	370.1	372.3	373.6	375.4
	Cast iron stoves and grates, etc	398.5	399.2	399.2	400.2	401.1
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Aluminium plate, sheet and strip	305.2	302.3	306.8	307.3	308.1
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper sheet and strip	152.1	149.6	154.2	153.2	149.8
	Wrought brass	169.8	162.4	164.1	162.8	158.4
	Brass strip and sheet (and yellow metal condenser plates)	164.3	157.7	159.1	157.9	153.3
323	Other base metals					
	Magnesium ingots, electrolyte min. 99.8% [2]	366.0	366.0	366.0	366.0	366.0
	Titanium (alloy billets)	235.5	235.5	235.5	235.5	235.5
	Silicon min. 98% pure [2]	333.3	333.3	333.3	303.3	296.2
	Zinc sheets, 1-17 mm basis [2]	352.9	352.9	323.0	323.0	323.0
	Bismuth [1]	113.5	109.8	107.8	102.6	103.1
	Cobalt metal, delivered UK [2]	375.3	364.5	363.2	363.2	363.2
	Lead sheet and pipe	257.0	262.4	266.9	256.9	238.1
Metal goods not elsewhere specified						
391	Hand tools and implements					
	Handsaws and blades (excluding hacksaws)	344.7	344.7	348.9	364.8	366.6
	Pliers, pincers and nippers	351.3	351.3	351.3	373.6	381.8
	Agricultural, horticultural and other heavy edged tools	321.5	321.5	321.5	330.4 p	338.0
	Spanners and wrenches	315.9	315.9	320.8	328.2	334.5
392	Cutlery and tableware, etc					
	Razor [3] and razor blades	217.9	217.9	232.4	235.1	235.1
	Razor blades	219.2	219.2	233.5	236.2	236.2
	Knives, scissors, etc	288.2	288.8	293.8	302.9	311.0
	Scissors and tailors' shears	274.2	274.2	280.7	283.7	303.7
	Spoons and forks	315.0	315.0	315.0	329.8	332.4
	Spoons and forks: silver plated	375.3	375.3	375.3	391.1	391.5
394	Wire and wire manufactures	252.1	250.2	254.2	256.2	256.3
	Wire and wire manufactures of iron and steel	288.3	288.3	292.9	296.5	297.5
	Iron and steel wire, single stranded	315.0	315.0	322.6	324.2	324.9
	Iron and steel wire, single – bright	314.4	314.4	321.7	323.1	323.5
	Iron and steel wire, galvanished	316.9	316.9	325.9	328.9	332.6
	Wire rope	271.8	271.8	271.8	283.2	286.8
	Iron and steel wire netting and mesh	266.6	266.6	278.1	280.8	283.2
	Chain link fencing	236.5	236.5	252.0	252.9	252.9
	Reinforcement fabric	235.2	235.2	235.2	235.2	235.2
	Wire and wire manufactures of brass and bronze	173.9	169.3	171.1	173.3	172.1
	Brass and bronze woven wire cloth, etc	231.5	231.6	232.2	234.7	238.9
	Wire and wire manufactures of copper	129.9	123.6	128.6	125.0	121.8
	Copper wire in coils, H.C. wire, 3.15 mm [2]	128.9	122.6	127.6	124.0	120.7
	Woven copper wire	223.9	223.9	225.9	227.4	230.1
396	Jewellery and precious metals					
	Silver bullion [2]	361.9	357.5	343.1	344.4	344.4
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture					
	Metal storage cupboards, lockers, shelving and racking	267.7	270.8	273.1	278.9	278.9
	Kitchen and bathroom furniture	221.2	221.2	221.2	226.9	227.3
399/6	Domestic hollow ware	262.7	264.6	265.1	277.0	283.0
	Domestic hollow-ware – aluminium	252.6	252.6	253.6	269.2	275.8
399/7	Industrial hollow ware	289.7	292.3	292.3	295.1	299.4
	Steel drums	301.8	304.9	304.9	306.7	306.7
399/8	Needles, pins, fish hooks and other metal small wares					
	Slide and zip fasteners of metal	255.0	258.0	258.0	258.4	258.4
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Metal furnishings for doors and windows	276.6	276.6	279.8	288.5	292.8
	Fire extinguishing apparatus (hand operated, chemical)	225.1	231.8	231.9	231.9	232.5
Textiles						
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems					
	Cotton yarns, cotton – spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both					
	Cotton yarns	283.8	276.3	276.0	277.1	276 3
	Cotton-spun mixture yarns of cotton and man-made					

Table 4a continued

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	Nov	Dec	1978 Jan	Feb p
	fibres	180.5	179.1	179.1	181.1	181.1
	Cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns	237.8	237.8	238.3	239.1	239.8
	Cotton-spun regenerated man-made fibre yarns	274.0	274.0	274.0	275.6	277.1
	Processed yarns of man-made fibres	139.1	138.7	139.3	140.1	139.3
	Spun yarns of flax and man-made fibres	335.3	342.6	351.7	352.1	352.1
	Flax spun yarns of man-made fibres	214.2	216.8	220.3	223.8	223.8
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres					
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate					
	Tyre cord fabric	232.5	232.7	232.7	232.8	232.8
	Other plain cloths (grey), tea towelling, cleaning and dishcloths	250.9	248.3	246.7	254.4	248.7
	Woven linen in the loomstate	350.5	350.4	347.6	341.6	341.9
	Heavy linen	381.5	381.4	379.9	379.0	379.8
	Woven fabric of glass fibre	291.1	291.1	291.1	312.4	313.3
	Woven cloth of glass fibre – except insulation fabric	292.3	292.3	292.3	312.4	313.7
414/1	Wool sorting, cleaning, etc, and combing and topmaking					
	Wool tops [2]	316.0	308.6	302.3	291.5	292.4
414/3	Woven worsted fabrics	288.8	290.8	291.3	292.3	291.5
414/4	Wool recovery					
	Wool rag [2]	334.9	336.4	336.4	337.7	339.4
414/5	Woollen spinning and weaving					
	Woven woollen fabric	310.5	312.4	315.0	315.1	315.4
	Other woven woollen fabrics	319.9	322.5	322.5	322.7	323.1
	Yarns spun on the woollen system	298.5	302.8	298.9	300.1	300.2
414/6	Pressed wool felt	316.7	316.7	316.7	337.3	337.7
415	Spinning and weaving of jute and other yarns on the jute system	253.7	255.7	257.1	258.2	258.2
	Spun yarns of jute and man-made fibres	235.2	241.3	245.7	245.7	245.7
416	Rope, twine and net	283.1	288.8	288.8	289.0	289.0
	Cordage, cables, ropes and twine of textile materials	286.2	290.3	290.3	290.3	290.3
	Nets and netting	241.2	268.4	268.5	271.4	271.5
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods					
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – hose	171.2	171.2	171.4	179.1	180.1
	Men's hose	205.8	205.8	205.8	216.4	216.4
	Women's hose	178.3	178.3	182.1	188.9	189.7
	Children's hose	207.2	207.2	210.1	228.1	228.1
	Panti-hose, etc	133.9	133.9	131.8	136.3	138.3
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – underwear	259.4	266.5	264.8	275.5	275.7
	Men's knitted underwear	285.6	282.8	276.5	291.5	291.5
	Men's knitted underwear – man-made fibres and mixture of natural and man-made fibres	282.8	282.8	282.8	270.6	270.6
	Women's knitted underwear	239.6	259.7	259.7	259.9	260.4
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear	252.0	252.0	254.8	277.2	277.2
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear – cotton	253.0	253.0	256.6	279.9	279.9
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – knitted outerwear	217.5	218.5	218.5	227.4	227.4
	Knitted headgear and scarves	298.6	302.7	302.7	307.1	307.1
	Knitted fabrics	196.3	196.1	196.2	197.6	197.6
	Knitted fabrics – weft	210.8	210.4	210.4	211.5	211.5
	Knitted fabrics – warp	180.2	180.2	180.4	182.2	182.2
419	Carpets and rugs					
	Carpets					
	Carpets – woven					
	Axminster carpets	282.1	282.2	283.7	293.4	298.3
	Wilton carpets	292.3	292.9	294.8	305.6	306.5
	Rugs	276.1	276.1	276.1	276.1	285.2
421	Narrow fabrics	254.9	254.8	263.5	272.8	275.4
421/1	Elastic webs and cords	235.8	235.8	263.5	265.0	265.0
421/3	Non-elastic fabrics	265.3	265.3	265.3	279.8	284.0
	Petersams, galloons and ribbons	262.9	262.9	262.9	277.9	287.6
422	Made-up textiles	279.2	279.4	279.9	280.9	281.2
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs	285.7	284.9	285.0	286.1	286.3
	Bed linen – sheets and bedspreads	267.0	265.2	265.2	265.2	265.2
	Tea towels, cleaning and polishing cloths	319.7	319.5	319.5	319.5	321.3
422/2	Canvas sacks and bags and other made-up textiles	265.9	268.2	269.4	270.2	270.3
	Other made-up textiles of canvas, cotton, man-made fibres, etc	307.2	307.5	309.9	309.9	307.4
429	Other textile industries	238.0	239.4	243.6	252.6	252.7
429/2	Other – hair, fibre and allied industries	215.8	216.1	218.0	222.2	222.5
	Needleloom felt and carpeting	221.2	221.7	221.7	229.3	229.3

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	Nov	Dec	1978 Jan	Feb p
	Leather, leather goods and fur					
432	Leather goods					
	Travel goods	244.9	244.9	244.9	259.7	260.0
	Clothing and footwear					
441	Weatherproof outerwear	207.5	208.3	208.3	214.3	214.3
442	Men's and boys' tailored outerwear	213.4	214.3	216.3	218.0	222.6
	Men's and youths' overcoats	162.4	162.4	169.3	169.3	169.3
	Men's and boys' suits	242.3	242.8	242.8	242.8	249.2
	Men's and boys' jackets – sold separately (including blazers)	203.8	204.5	211.8	215.7	222.2
	Men's and boys' trousers – sold separately	185.5	187.8	187.8	191.9	193.3
443	Women's and young girls' tailored outerwear	207.3	210.2	210.9	212.1	212.4
	Women's overcoats	211.2	212.4	215.7	215.7	215.7
	Women's suits, skirts and slacks – excluding jeans	203.7	208.4	208.4	212.0	212.0
444	Overalls and men's and boys' shirts	234.8	235.5	237.2	247.7	247.7
444/1	Heavy overalls, aprons and jeans	310.5	313.0	315.2	320.3	320.3
444/2	Men's and boys' shirts, nightwear, etc	205.8	205.8	207.3	219.9	219.9
	Men's and boys' shirts	199.6	199.6	199.8	214.4	214.4
	Men's and boys' shirts – woven fabric	204.2	204.2	204.7	224.4	224.4
	Men's and boys' shirts – knitted fabric	195.2	195.2	195.2	205.0	205.0
	Men's and boys' dressing gowns	229.4	229.4	229.4	232.6	232.6
445	Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear, etc	188.1	189.2	189.2	192.2	191.5
445/1	Light outerwear	182.2	184.0	184.0	186.0	186.3
445/2	Lingerie	210.6	210.6	210.6	217.2	214.1
445/3	Infants' wear	176.4	176.4	176.4	177.0	177.0
449	Dress industries not elsewhere specified	220.5	220.9	222.7	228.0	231.0
449/1	Corsets, brassieres and swimwear	214.0	214.0	216.3	220.8	224.3
	Women's corsets	213.9	213.9	218.2	223.7	227.2
	Brassieres	212.6	212.6	212.6	216.9	221.4
	Swimwear	218.9	218.9	218.9	218.9	218.9
449/2	Gloves	272.3	274.5	274.5	284.8	286.4
	Fabric gloves	274.0	280.3	280.3	287.1	285.9
	Leather gloves	271.4	271.4	271.4	283.5	286.7
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear					
	Boots and shoes with leather uppers	245.6	249.7	249.7	259.4	260.4
	Men's boots and shoes with leather uppers	277.3	278.1	278.1	289.9	290.3
	Women's shoes and bootees with leather uppers	233.7	237.7	237.7	249.9	251.8
	Boys', girls' and infants' boots and shoes with leather uppers	223.0	232.4	232.4	233.1	233.2
	Boots and shoes with uppers wholly or mainly of materials other than leather	206.4	206.6	206.6	212.4	212.7
	Slippers and indoor footwear	235.8	235.8	236.2	260.1	260.5
	Sandals	277.1	288.6	290.6	290.6	290.6
	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc					
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods					
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks					
	Basic bricks	378.9	379.7	379.7	382.4	383.6
	Fireclay refractories	287.1	287.1	287.1	292.7	293.6
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks					
	Building bricks and clay partition blocks	323.5	325.4	327.6	328.8	330.3
	Facing bricks, fletton (delivered)	255.5	255.5	255.5	255.5	255.5
	Facing bricks, non-fletton (ex-works)	360.0	363.4	369.0	371.8	373.2
	Common building bricks, fletton (delivered)	295.9	295.9	295.9	295.9	295.9
	Common building bricks, non-fletton (ex-works)	337.0	337.6	337.6	337.6	341.4
	Engineering bricks (ex-works)	330.2	338.8	342.6	346.0	347.5
	Non-refractory goods (other than bricks)	311.8	313.4	314.0	316.1	321.8
	Roofing tiles (ex-works)	384.9	391.6	396.8	407.9	407.9
	Fireclay sanitary ware	289.5	301.9	301.9	303.5	346.4
	Floor quarry tiles (ex-works)	246.8	246.8	251.7	271.5	274.2
462	Pottery	264.6	265.8	268.3	271.5	276.5
462/2	Vitreous china sanitary ware and pottery tiles	245.3	247.9	247.9	248.4	261.0
	Vitreous china sanitary ware	264.2	270.1	270.1	271.2	300.3
	Pottery tiles	230.7	230.7	230.7	230.7	230.7
462/3	Other china and earthenware					
	Domestic earthenware	276.0	276.0	284.1	284.1	284.1
463	Glass					
463/1	Glass (other than containers)					
	Glass products (other than flat glass and containers)	283.5	288.5	289.5	291.9	295.9
	Scientific and machinery glassware (including tubing and rod)	288.7	292.1	292.1	292.1	296.9

Table 4a Supplementary list of commodoties produced in the United Kingdom (published April, August and December) continued

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	Nov	Dec	1978 Jan	Feb p
	Illuminating glassware	256.3	256.3	256.3	262.6	266.6
	Domestic glassware	253.4	258.4	262.3	265.7	269.8
	Hand gathered domestic glassware	256.3	256.3	256.3	264.6	276.7
463/2	Glass containers					
	Glass containers, for the food processing industry	287.4	298.1	298.1	299.8	304.6
	Glass containers, other than for the food processing industry	298.5	306.7	308.7	310.5 p	314.7
469	Abrasives and building materials not elsewhere specified					
469/1	Abrasives	295.4	295.4	295.4	296.2	300.0
	Abrasive papers and cloths	327.2	327.2	327.2	327.2	336.4
	Abrasive grinding wheels	278.0	278.0	278.0	279.2	280.1
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified					
	Pitch fibre pipes	260.1	276.3	277.1	277.1	277.1
	Precast concrete products					
	Precast concrete building blocks (delivered)	293.9	295.0	295.0	299.4	303.7
	Precast concrete building blocks (ex-works)	259.7	260.6	260.6	267.8	274.1
	Precast concrete – flags and kerbs (delivered)	217.1	218.1	218.1	218.1	218.1
	Asbestos cement products	355.8	364.6	364.6	364.6	364.6
	Sandlime bricks	298.5	303.8	303.8	303.8	304.0
	Lime products	311.8	311.9	311.9	312.1	313.5
	Agricultural lime	307.0	310.2	310.2	314.7	314.7
	Hydrated lime for building and industry	320.0	320.0	320.0	320.1	322.7
	Plaster board	298.3	298.3	298.3	298.3	298.3
	Mineral fibre tiles – accoustic ceiling	315.0	315.0	315.0	327.1	330.7
	Mineral fibre panels	323.3	325.0	325.0	332.5	335.2
	Roofing felt	279.9	279.9	279.9	279.9	279.9
	Fencing	287.3	286.9	296.1	296.6	296.1
Timber, furniture, etc						
471/1	Timber – sawmilling, etc					
	Homegrown hardwood					
	Homegrown hardwood: ash – sawn	292.1	294.1	295.4	295.4	299.1
	Homegrown hardwood: elm – sawn	256.3	256.3	256.3	258.2	266.9
	Homegrown hardwood: beech – sawn	257.1	257.1	257.1	257.1	257.1
	Homegrown hardwood: oak – sawn	371.7	371.6	375.4	380.0	385.6
	Homegrown hardwood: pallet timber – sawn	304.0	304.0	302.1	295.0	295.0
475	Wooden containers	266.9	271.9	273.7	277.0	278.3
479	Miscellaneous wood and cork manufacturers	293.8	293.7	293.7	299.4	301.5
479/3	Other wood manufactures					
	Wood wool – including manufactures	326.4	326.4	326.4	344.2	350.1
Paper, printing and publishing						
481	Paper and board					
	Paper and board – other than building board	290.1	289.0	288.7	287.5	287.4
	Coated paper	270.0	270.0	270.0	270.0	270.0
	Coated paper – off machine	278.1	278.1	278.1	278[1]	278.1
	Coated paper – on machine	257.4	257.4	257.4	257.5	257.4
	Uncoated paper	292.7	290.9	290.4	288.4	288.0
	Printings and writings – including newsprint	303.3	302.2	301.5	298.4	298.3
	Kraft wrapping paper	282.4	277.1	277.1	276.0	276.0
	Other wrapping paper	272.5	266.9	266.9	266.7	264.9
	Household and other tissues – including cigarette tissues	301.8	301.8	299.5	301.7	301.7
	Industrial and special purpose papers	286.0	286.0	286.0	284.0	283.2
	Uncoated board	294.5	294.9	294.9	294.9	295.7
	Packaging boards	298.5	298.5	298.5	298.5	298.5
	Boards for industrial and special purposes	283.5	285.0	285.0	285.0	287.9
	Coated board	303.3	303.3	303.3	303.3	303.3
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials	300.7	302.0	302.4	303.4	303.8
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard					
	Cardboard boxes	287.1	287.1	291.4	292.5	292.9
	Cartons	306.1	308.9	309.4	310.8	310.6
	Cartons – food	305.3	312.0	313.7	318.2	318.3
	Cartons – other than for food	306.5	307.5	307.5	307.5	307.3
	Packing cases – fibreboard	286.2	286.5	286.5	286.5	286.5
	Packing cases – fibreboard – solid	299.8	302.0	302.0	302.0	302.0
	Packing cases – fibreboard – corrugated	284.3	284.3	284.3	284.3	284.3
482/2	Packaging products of paper and associated materials	316.9	318.4	318.4	320.8	322.0
	Paper sacks	318.1	318.1	318.1	318.1	318.1
	Paper sacks – food	317.4	317.4	317.4	317.4	317.4
	Paper sacks – other than for food	319.1	319.1	319.1	319.1	319.1
	Paper bags	339.4	344.0	344.0	343.5	343.5

1968 SIC		1977 Oct	Nov	Dec	1978 Jan	Feb p
483	Manufactured stationery					
	Commercial envelopes	294.4	294.4	295.7	295.7	295.7
	Business forms	281.6	274.7	274.7	274.2	273.7
	Counter check books and forms for loose leaf binders	299.1	306.0	306.0	306.1	305.3
	Continuous stationery	288.6	277.9	277.9	277.2	276.8
	Stationery and scholastic books	308.9	310.3	310.3	310.3	309.3
	Loose leaf supplies	351.7	377.8	377.8	377.8	377.8
	Filing supplies	367.4	371.5	371.5	375.8	376.2
484	Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified	282.1	282.1	282.2	282.7	287.3
484/2	Other manufactures of paper and board	292.1	292.1	292.4	292.6	292.6
	Cellulose paper products	281.7	281.7	282.1	282.6	282.6
	Doyleys	310.7	310.7	310.7	310.7	310.7
	Toilet paper	301.8	301.8	301.8	301.8	301.8
	Paper rolls and coils	269.5	270.0	270.9	271.3	271.3
Other manufacturing industries						
491	Rubber manufactures	277.4	278.9	279.9	282.5	283.4
491/2	Rubber goods – other than tyres and tubes	296.6	299.5	301.4	306.6	308.4
	Hose of rubber or plastics	361.1	361.9	372.8	374.9	382.0
	Motor parts and accessories of rubber	306.0	317.3	317.3	329.0	329.0
	Machinery belting of rubber and plastics	423.5	427.1	428.8	429.5	429.6
	Miscellaneous rubber goods	226.3	226.3	226.3	231.7	232.9
493	Brushes and brooms	264.8	267.5	267.5	274.2	275.9
	Decorating brushes and rollers	238.6	245.5	245.5	245.5	248.9
	Toilet brushes	266.9	267.5	267.5	273.3	273.3
	Industrial brushes and polishing mops	277.1	277.1	277.1	286.0	290.1
	Household brushes and brooms	282.9	283.6	283.6	295.7	296.1
494	Toys, games, baby carriages and sports equipment	268.9	269.0	269.0	280.0	285.7
494/1	Toys and games	276.8	276.9	276.9	292.1	298.8
	Metal toys	303.3	303.3	303.3	330.3	331.1
	Metal toys – non-mechanical	305.4	305.4	305.4	335.3	335.3
	Dolls and soft toys	262.4	262.4	262.4	284.6	284.6
	Indoor games	227.4	227.4	227.4	259.9	259.9
	Plastics toys	249.5	249.9	249.9	255.4	269.4
	Pedal cars, scooters, toy perambulators and children's tricycles and bicycles	330.3	330.3	330.3	330.6	341.0
	Pedal cars and scooters	305.9	305.9	305.9	306.8	309.1
494/3	Sports equipment	243.0	243.0	243.0	243.0	247.4
495	Miscellaneous stationers' goods	220.9	220.9	221.4	226.5	227.8
495/1	Pens and pencils					
	Pencils – non-mechanical	282.5	282.5	282.5	293.5	293.5
495/2	Stationers' goods – other than pens and pencils	226.5	226.5	226.5	226.5	226.5
496	Plastics products not elsewhere specified	250.2	250.9	251.8	255.3	257.5
	Plastics products – other than components, accessories and semi-manufactured goods	252.7	253.2	254.4	258.1	259.4
	Building materials of plastics	283.4	284.4	287.2	290.6	293.9
	Water services' pipes and fitments of plastics	305.2	305.2	305.2	306.4	307.5
	Other piping and fittings – drainage, effluent, etc	278.3	278.3	280.0	284.6	284.8
	Builders' hardware of plastics	275.9	278.5	283.7	286.4	291.8
	Domestic, catering and furnishing goods of plastics	225.4	225.4	228.5	235.8	236.1
	Hollow-ware and hardware of plastics – including kitchenware	218.5	218.5	222.7	230.7	231.2
	Plastics dress fasteners	219.9	221.6	222.3	222.3	222.1
	Plastics sleeving	242.4	242.4	242.4	242.4	242.4
	Packaging materials of plastics	248.2	248.4	248.7	251.8	252.5
	Plastics caps, closures, bottles and jars	262.0	262.7	262.7	267.5	269.1
	Plastics foam-upholstery, cushioning and floor covering	268.2	268.2	268.2	270.4	271.6
499/1	Musical instruments	258.8	258.8	258.8	266.2	273.1
	Pianos	299.6	299.6	299.6	299.6	317.2
429, 463, 469, 479, 481	Part Thermal insulation materials	285.4	287.7	287.7	292.5	293.2
Other commodities						
	Waste paper	247.8	245.7	245.7	243.6	242.5

[1] Producers' price. [2] Source of price information: trade publications. p Provisional.

Revisions to table 4a

1968 SIC		Year	Jul	Aug	Sep
271/1	Inorganic chemicals other than sodium and sodium compounds	1977	262.1	264.2	265.1
273	Face powder	1977	—	244.7	244.7
	Eye make-up	1977	—	225.3	225.3
399/12	Metal furnishings for doors and windows	1977	—	—	269.6

Table 4b Supplementary list of commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (published April, August and December)

1970 = 100

	1977			1978	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb p
Crude oil [1]	843.5	825.8	820.6	794.1	776.9
Imported paper and paperboard (including newsprint)	328.0	327.3	327.3	326.2	324.0
Imported paper and paperboard (excluding newsprint)	325.2	324.3	324.3	323.0	320.2
Imported newsprint	340.1	340.1	340.1	340.1	340.1
Timber, imported:					
Mahogany	352.0	352.0	350.3	345.2	343.9
Utile	445.5	447.8	448.8	450.5	447.4
Beech	349.0	349.0	353.5	355.1	349.3
Ramin	334.9	330.9	330.9	324.8	316.9
Meranti	271.8	272.5	268.1	264.3	267.5
Quicksilver, min. 99.99%, cif Europe [2]	43.8	40.2	40.2	39.5	39.6
Asbestos, Canadian, fob Quebec [2]	294.1	282.8	280.9	269.3	264.7
Bauxite, min. 86% Al_2O_3 [2]	399.8	399.8	399.8	399.8	399.8
Manganese ore, 48-50% Mn grade, max. 0.1%P., cif Europe [2]	383.0	370.6	363.8	346.6	348.0
Tungsten ore, min. 65%, cif Europe [2]	284.3	297.8	284.8	264.2	242.3
Phosphate rock	347.3	346.6	345.8	320.9	321.3
Phosphate rock for fertiliser manufacture	345.5	344.7	343.8	313.0	313.4
Hides and skins:					
Native	307.5	301.0	328.9	371.9	360.2
Imported	324.0	325.4	330.2	335.1	333.0
Imported, wet	268.2	272.2	278.0	285.4	282.8
Imported, dry	341.5	318.7	341.5	341.5	339.1
Raw silk	203.1	199.9	201.3	201.2	203.1
Raw jute:					
BWD grade, c and f Dundee [2]	139.4	137.7	139.6	148.5	165.2
BWC grade, c and f Dundee [2]	169.4	167.6	169.0	180.8	198.9
BTC grade, c and f Dundee [2]	168.6	166.4	168.3	180.1	196.8
BTD grade, c and f Dundee [2]	171.1	169.9	171.5	183.1	202.4
Flax, imported	384.0	365.5	361.5	363.4	360.0
Sisal	491.0	482.8	481.5	461.8	431.3
Gum arabic, Kordofan, ex-wharf London [2]	293.7	293.7	287.3	276.1	272.6
Rosin gum, WW Portuguese [2]	168.1	161.0	154.3	151.8	151.0
Woodpulp, imported:					
For use in paper and board making industries	281.8	274.2	263.3	244.5	242.5
Chemical	269.3	262.0	253.0	233.9	233.2
Sulphite, bleached	264.7	257.6	249.1	229.8	229.1
Sulphate, bleached and semi-bleached	270.7	263.4	256.7	232.1	231.4
Wood rosin, American FF [2]	242.8	234.3	233.0	230.3	230.3
Castor oil, Brazilian No. 1 grade [2]	451.4	427.1	404.4	395.1	398.4
Soya beans, US No. 2 grade, cif UK [2]	245.6	265.8	262.3	249.7	246.6
Linseed, Canadian No. 1, cif UK [2]	290.1	254.6	252.8	235.5	229.5
Copra, Philippine, cif Europe [2]	204.6	209.4	224.6	211.8	219.8
Palm kernels, Nigerian, cif basis-ports [2]	211.8	224.9	232.6	223.2	224.7
Olive oil, Spanish, edible, max. 1%, ffa	411.3	411.3	411.3	411.3	411.3
Fish oil, cif, east coast UK [2]	252.0	227.2	232.7	223.7	217.1
Palm oil, crude, London, spot price [2]	292.6	282.7	317.5	282.4	295.0
Linseed oil, cif London/Hull [2]	207.8	208.8	191.0	192.0	206.9
Coconut oil, cif Europe [2]	195.8	196.9	210.2	201.1	205.5
Groundnut oil, London, spot price [2]	336.0	342.5	362.4	373.8	371.3
Lemongrass oil, Cochin, spot price [2]	211.6	236.4	239.9	242.6	246.9
Citronella oil, Sri Lanka, spot price [2]	139.5	139.5	140.6	142.7	139.5
Lime oil, West Indian, distilled, spot price [2]	181.3	181.3	181.3	181.3	181.3
Clove oil, Madagascan, crude, spot price [2]	189.1	193.6	203.7	198.1	189.1
Sandalwood oil, Indian, spot price [2]	181.7	150.8	139.2	137.4	130.9
Peppermint oil [2]	220.5	203.4	201.3	194.3	180.5
Geranium oil, Bourbon, spot price [2]	225.1	225.1	225.1	219.4	210.1
Eucalyptus oil, Portuguese, spot price [2]	113.7	109.0	104.3	102.5	103.3

[1] Based on unit value of imports at their time of entry. [2] Source of price information: trade publications. p Provisional.

Table 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices [1]

1970 = 100

	Primary commodities									Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals [2]		
	Total			Agricultural non-food			Non-ferrous metals					
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1974 1st qtr	303	318	274	232	244	209	160	168	144	284	298	256
2nd qtr	304	304	263	229	229	198	183	183	159	288	287	249
3rd qtr	309	315	274	221	225	196	142	145	126	287	292	254
4th qtr	320	330	284	212	213	186	126	130	111	294	303	258
1975 1st qtr	312	313	261	201	202	168	124	124	101	287	287	240
2nd qtr	299	309	250	198	204	166	121	125	101	275	284	230
3rd qtr	295	333	261	196	220	173	118	133	105	271	306	240
4th qtr	301	354	271	191	224	172	116	136	104	276	324	249
1976 1st qtr	306	368	279	202	243	184	120	144	109	281	338	256
2nd qtr	310	412	289	212	282	198	135	179	126	286	381	267
3rd qtr	314	427	291	227	308	211	140	190	130	291	395	270
4th qtr	316	459	290	232	337	213	131	190	120	291	423	267
1977 1st qtr	340	476	311	241	338	220	141	197	129	313	439	286
2nd qtr	348	486	314	249	348	224	142	198	128	320	447	289
3rd qtr	339	469	302	228	315	203	137	189	122	312	431	278
4th qtr [3]	338	447	292	225	298	194	139	184	120	311	412	269
1978 *1st qtr* [4]	*345*	*429*	*285*	*232*	*289*	*192*	*142*	*177*	*118*	*318*	*395*	*263*

[1] Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates. [2] This combined index is not published as such by the UN. [3] *Provisional.* [4] *Projections by Department of Industry.*

New companies in March

Details are given below of new companies registered in Great Britain during March showing nominal capital. The figures exclude unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Inquiries: Cardiff (2220) 388588 ext. 2226.

BSO phone
The phone number of the Business Statistics Office is Newport (0633) 56111, not 65111 as stated on page 94 in last week's issue.

Companies registered in Great Britain in February

Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	3 828	—	3 828
Over £100 but under £1 000	59	—	59
£1 000 but under £10 000	1 369	—	1 369
£10 000 but under £50 000	517	—	517
£50 000 but under £100 000	115	—	115
£100 000 but under £1 000 000	127	—	127
£1 000 000 and over	9	—	9
Total number	6 024	—	6 024
	£ thous	£ thous	£ thous
Total amount of nominal capital	52 299	—	52 299

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1977 and 1978

	1977		1978	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous	Number	Nominal capital £ thous
January	3 225	30 825	4 555	31 447
February	4 330	34 505	4 326	38 325
March	5 843	49 266	6 024	52 299
April	5 499	41 860		
May	4 097	27 086		
June	4 169	61 951		
July	4 172	34 238		
August	4 242	42 331		
September	4 527	51 261		
October	4 404	37 741		
November	5 007	32 987		
December	5 005	30 739		
Total	54 520	474 790		

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the four weeks ended 25 February 1978:

	£
Distributors' earnings submitted	
Low-cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2½)	55 977
Not eligible for 2½ times rental	85 730
	141 707
High-cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2½)	182 036
	323 743
Films under 3000 ft (after multiplying by 2½)	79 310
	£403 053
Levy collections paid to agency by HM Customs and Excise to 7 March 1978 including an estimate of collections approximately covering entertainments for the four weeks ended 25 February 1978	£455 000

The fourth interim allocation for the twenty-first year will be at the rate of 40 per cent.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 14 April 1978.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Sammy's Super T-Shirt	BR/E 39544/16/4/83	58	10 April	Childrens Film Foundation Ltd	Monument Films Ltd
The Anna Contract	BR/E 39545/16/4/83	31	10 April	Brent Walker Film Distributors Ltd	Arundel Film Productions
The Stud	BR/E 39547/16/4/83	89	11 April	Brent Walker Film	Stud Film
Hobbs' Choice	BR/E 39550/16/4/83	28	14 April	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Co Ltd	Jon Roseman Productions (International) Ltd
Movietone News 2548	BR/E 39397/16/4/83	8	14 April	Distributors Ltd British Movietonews Ltd	Productions Ltd British Movietonews Ltd
FOREIGN					
The Outer Space Connection	F 39535	93	10 April	Sunn Classic Productions (GB) Ltd	Sunn Classic Pictures, California
Aggro-Seizeman	F 39546	110	10 April	Frederick Hamley Case	Frederick Hamley Case, England
MacArthur – The Rebel General	F 39548	130	13 April	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures, California
Semi-Tough	F 39549	105	13 April	United Artists Corporation Ltd	David Merrick, New York

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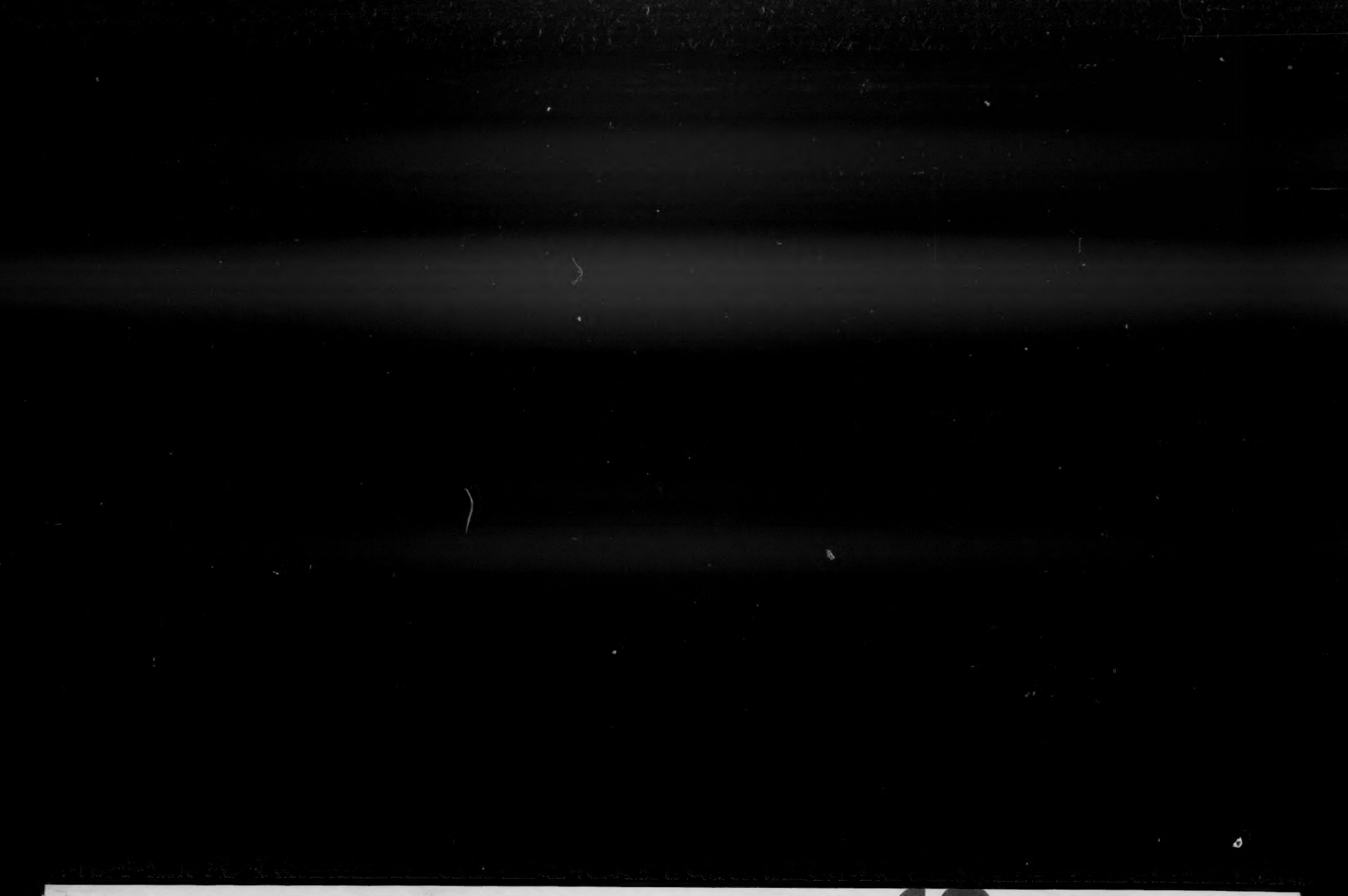
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